

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR
THE HONORABLE JULIA LETLOW
FROM THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

STATE OF LOUISIANA
Executive Department
CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

To the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives:

I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that, in accordance with the provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, on the 20th day of March, 2021, Julia Letlow was elected by the qualified electors of the Fifth Congressional District of the State of Louisiana as a Member of the United States House of Representatives to represent the State of Louisiana in the 117th Congress for the unexpired, remaining term of office. The votes cast, 67,203 for Julia Letlow; 28,255 for Sandra "Candy" Christophe; 5,497 for Chad Conerly; 929 for Robert Lansden; 464 for Allen Guillory; 402 for "Jim" Davis; 334 for Sancha Smith; 236 for M.V. "Vinny" Mendoza; 131 for Jaycee Magnuson; 67 for Richard H. Pannell; 62 for Horace Melton III; and 36 for Errol Victor, Sr., are on file and of record in the Office of the Secretary of State of Louisiana.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge on this 31st day of March, 2021.

JOHN BEL EDWARDS,
Governor of Louisiana.

Attest by the Secretary of State
KYLE ARDOIN,
Secretary of State.

[State Seal Affixed]

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE
JULIA LETLOW, OF LOUISIANA,
AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the members of the Louisiana delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise her right hand.

Ms. LETLOW appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 117th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE
JULIA LETLOW TO THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that on behalf of the entire Louisiana delegation and on behalf of all of my colleagues, we welcome JULIA LETLOW to Congress.

It has been quite a journey, and it is not a journey that she walks alone. This has been JULIA and Luke LETLOW's journey for over a year, and we all still grieve for the loss of Luke, who tragically died just days before he would have been sworn into Congress. But JULIA never backed down, never looked back. She moved forward, and she said we are going to continue this journey with her beautiful family.

Madam Speaker, up in the balcony, we have her 3-year-old son, Jeremiah, and her 1-year-old daughter, Jacqueline. We welcome them, as well as both JULIA's and Luke's families, who are in the balcony.

There are so many great attributes that JULIA is going to bring to this Congress. She graduated from the University of Louisiana Monroe. She has been in higher education her entire life and truly dedicated her life to serving others. She will be serving on the Education and Labor Committee, as well as on the Agriculture Committee, two important committees that enrich this country, as well as her district.

She has a great record of service. We are so excited to have her in our delegation. We are especially proud that JULIA becomes, today, the first Republican woman ever elected to Congress from Louisiana.

Madam Speaker, let me welcome our newest Member of Congress, JULIA LETLOW.

Ms. LETLOW. Madam Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to stand here today as the first Republican woman elected to Congress from Louisiana.

Representing the people of the Fifth Congressional District is a great responsibility, and I pledge to work hard for you in Congress.

My district is blessed with some of the best resources in the Nation, and no one knew that better than my husband, Luke, who was elected to this very seat but who we lost to COVID just days before he was set to take office.

Luke and I were a team with a goal to better our State and our country. I want to thank him for paving the way for me. I am here today to carry that torch forward, to be a voice for our farmers, to champion education, to help bring broadband to our rural communities, and to ensure our economy is thriving again.

The last year has not been easy for our country. Too many families, like mine, have experienced tragedy because of this pandemic. To those families, I see you, I hear you, and most importantly, I pray with you.

I want to thank my family, both the Letlows and the Barnhills, for being the rock-solid, godly people you are in my life.

I also cannot thank my staff, the Louisiana delegation, and my congressional colleagues enough for guiding me and welcoming me so fully. And I thank everyone who has reached out and prayed for my family these past few months.

Today, as I start my journey in Congress, I choose hope. I want to be part of a revival of honesty, integrity, and hard work within these hallowed Halls. I will stand up for what is right and true, bringing hope of a better tomorrow for my children and for yours.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Louisiana, the whole number of the House is 430.

ELECTING A CERTAIN MEMBER TO
A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 310

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM: Mr. Quigley.

Mr. AGUILAR (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTING A MEMBER TO CERTAIN
STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 311

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR: Ms. Letlow

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: Ms. Letlow

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONGRATULATING JAMES BISH, CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE WINNER

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the winner of the Ohio Ninth Congressional District's second annual Congressional App Challenge, James Bish, of Bay High School in Bay Village, Ohio.

James' app, called Anonymous FRQ Grading, is an impressive tool for teachers and students to submit responses to essay questions free of bias in evaluation. James' application received strong scores in each phase, from concept to design to the skills shown to produce it.

The judges for this year's competition included computer science professionals and scholars from across the district, such as Max Herzog from the Cleveland Water Alliance and Kelly Zelesnik from Lorain County Community College.

I am amazed by the strong showing of submissions and participation from across the district that we received this year. Developing STEM education must be a priority not only within our community but across our Nation as well, and the Congressional App Challenge is an opportunity to foster such critical skills.

I offer my sincerest congratulations to James Bish on his win and thank him for the impressive and important work that went into creating this app. And I thank James' teacher at Bay High, Rob Grossman, who provided guidance and mentorship to James during this challenge.

PROTECTING INFANTS WHO SURVIVE ABORTIONS

(Mrs. WAGNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to implore my colleagues to join me in the fight to protect the most vulnerable in our society, infants who survive abortions.

Again and again, more than 75 times, Democrats have refused to even allow a vote on my legislation, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. This, Mr. Speaker, is shameful.

Every child should be welcomed with joy and wonder, no matter the circumstances of their birth. I will not stop working until this legislation is passed and signed into law, so all newborns have a chance at life.

Just 2 hours ago, Representative KAT CAMMACK filed a discharge petition so that Democrats can't continue to block the Born-Alive Act. It is my sincerest hope that every Member of Congress, Democrat or Republican, finds the courage to add their name to this petition. This is the simplest decision that any of us can make. Do you support ba-

bies receiving lifesaving care after they are born, or would you deny these children that care and murder them or leave them to die in front of you?

I am challenging Congress to stand up and do the right thing. I urge my colleagues to sign the discharge petition to ensure no American child is denied medical care.

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS AT OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, some of my Doctors Caucus colleagues and I took a trip to the southern border to observe the ongoing humanitarian crisis. What we saw was nothing short of tragic.

The bottom line is that the situation stems from several key Biden policies that have created an incentive for migrants to cross the border illegally. President Biden abolished the Remain in Mexico policy despite the fact that it helped migrants avoid numerous dangers. The policy was accompanied by his administration's moratorium on deportations, not abiding by title 42's expressed purpose.

Let there be no mistake, no one gets into this country without the expressed permission of drug cartels at our southern border. Not only are illegal immigrants coming in, but drugs, weapons, and human trafficking are coming now in record numbers.

Even worse, this crisis falls on terrified unaccompanied children. I will never forget seeing a 4-year-old with nothing on her back except her clothes and a telephone number written in Sharpie upon her chest.

Only securing our border will end this crisis. I ask the Biden administration to return to the previous administration's border policies.

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HOUSE CHINA TASK FORCE

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, last year, I was proud to serve on the House China Task Force with a number of my Republican colleagues. Over six months through engagement and consultation with national security and trade officials, foreign policy experts, the business community, and government officials, we compiled and unveiled a comprehensive report with more than 400 policy recommendations for how to address the existential challenges posed by China.

Addressing the challenges posed by China will be one of the greatest issues Congress and our country face in the decades to come. As we confront these issues, bipartisan work is needed. The China Task Force report provides a

roadmap with specific policy ideas and goals regarding how the U.S. can better combat the threat of the Chinese Communist Party. Two-thirds of the legislative recommendations are bipartisan; and, overall, more than one-quarter of the recommendations have already become law or have been implemented by the prior Trump administration.

As members of the Ways and Means Committee, we authored important provisions of the report that will help return American intellectual property and critical supply chains to the United States. We also included legislation to reform and strengthen the World Trade Organization to level the playing field for American trade.

Mr. Speaker, to preserve and grow national economic security, we need to act. I ask everyone to read the report and work with us to get this done in a bipartisan way.

CELEBRATING 100TH BIRTHDAY OF RALPH JOHNSON FROM CHEROKEE, IOWA

(Mr. FEENSTRA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birthday of Ralph Johnson from Cherokee, Iowa, who turned 100 years old on Monday.

Ralph is a member of the Greatest Generation, serving in the Navy during World War II. He truly embodies the bravery, courage, and selfless sacrifice of an American patriot, working as a head mechanic in the Pacific theater.

If you talk with Ralph, he will tell you harrowing stories about his service, like the time the Japanese flew so low over his ship, he could see the pilot's face.

On behalf of a grateful nation, we thank Ralph for his service and sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take a moment to recognize Linda Sommerfeld and David Scott, who made Ralph's special day great.

Happy birthday, Ralph. We wish you many blessings.

DEMPSEY WAGNER IS KEEPING LEE COUNTY, IOWA, SAFE

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank a young girl in my district for her charitable actions this year.

For their birthday, most 6-year-olds ask their parents for gifts—a dollhouse, a puppy, or a trip to Disney World. But Dempsey Wagner of Lee County has decided to use her special day to raise funds to help keep Iowans safe.

Dempsey, who tragically lost two relatives to drowning in 2017, is using her sixth birthday to help raise money for the Lee County Rescue Boat. The rescue boat, along with a trained dive