

elected for Representative to Congress for the Nineteenth Congressional District, State of New York, and the Honorable Joseph Sempolinski was elected for Representative to Congress for the Twenty-Third Congressional District, State of New York.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

—
NEW YORK STATE,
BOARD OF ELECTIONS,
Albany, NY, September 2, 2022.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. JOHNSON: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, for Representative in Congress from the 19th Congressional District of New York, show that Pat Ryan received 54,832 or 51.92% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Pat Ryan was elected as Representative in Congress from the 19th Congressional District of New York.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all (Part of Broome, Columbia, Delaware, Part of Dutchess, Greene, Part of Montgomery, Otsego, Part of Rensselaer, Schoharie, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties) involved, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by Law.

Regards,

TODD D. VALENTINE,
Co-Executive Director.
KRISTEN ZEBROWSKI
STAVISKY,
Co-Executive Director.

—
NEW YORK STATE,
BOARD OF ELECTIONS,
Albany, NY, September 2, 2022.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. JOHNSON: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, for Representative in Congress from the 23rd Congressional District of New York, show that Joseph Sempolinski received 39,011 or 53.06% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Joseph Sempolinski was elected as Representative in Congress from the 23rd Congressional District of New York.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all (Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Part of Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, part of Tioga, Tompkins and Yates Counties) involved, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Regards,

TODD D. VALENTINE,
Co-Executive Director.
KRISTEN ZEBROWSKI
STAVISKY,
Co-Executive Director.

—
SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE PATRICK RYAN, OF NEW YORK, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman

from New York, the Honorable PATRICK RYAN, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE JOSEPH SEMPOLINSKI, OF NEW YORK, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from New York, the Honorable JOSEPH SEMPOLINSKI, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will the Representatives-elect and the members of the New York delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representatives-elect will please raise their right hands.

Mr. RYAN of New York, Mr. SEMPOLINSKI of New York, and Mrs. PELTOLA of Alaska appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm 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 Members of the 117th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE MARY PELTOLA TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, it is a rare privilege to be able to introduce as a new Member the dean of a delegation, but that is my particular pleasure today.

There are few honors greater, Madam Speaker, in this country than being elected by your neighbors and fellow Americans to represent them in the House of Representatives. I welcome Senator MURKOWSKI and Senator SULLIVAN to our Chamber and remind them you cannot be appointed to the House of Representatives. Only by election can one serve in the people's House.

It is an extraordinary honor to have your friends and neighbors choose you

to represent them in this body. When our friend and colleague Don Young passed away earlier this year, this House lost a giant. The people of Alaska lost a Representative who had served them with great ability, energy, courage, and commitment for half a century.

Earlier this month, Alaskans cast their votes to send a new Representative to carry their voice and views in Washington. The woman they chose just made history with the oath that she took. She made history by becoming the first Alaska Native to be elected to the Congress of the United States.

Madam Speaker, she also made history as the first woman not to represent Alaska but to represent Alaskans in the House of Representatives. Obviously, Senator MURKOWSKI represents them in the Senate.

In Representative MARY PELTOLA, Alaskans chose someone who was not only a friend of former Representative Don Young but also someone cut from the same cloth, someone who believes fundamentally in pragmatism, independence, and putting Alaska's unique needs first. The Senators applaud that, apparently.

Representative PELTOLA is widely known across Alaska not only for her strong record as a State legislator but as a champion for rural and Native communities who are too often overlooked by policymakers. Don Young did not let that happen. She won't, either.

She has built solid relationships across both parties in Alaska because of what many have called her extreme kindness and her determination to befriend all that she meets.

Her record reflects Alaskans' independent approach to the most divisive issues, and in her election, she appealed to Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. Her campaign slogan reflected what she and many others consider the three fundamentals of Alaska: fish, family, and freedom.

Indeed, she has already begun to assemble a bipartisan staff to serve her constituents. Representative PELTOLA has a long record of working well with Alaska Republicans and even campaigning for Republican Senator LISA MURKOWSKI, who is with us here today, when she faced a primary challenge from an extreme candidate.

What Alaskans have known and shown by them electing MARY PELTOLA is that, like so many other Americans, they want to be represented by someone who is focused on bipartisanship and not on confrontation. They want someone who will put people over politics and get things done.

That has been Representative PELTOLA's record back home in Alaska, and I know it will be her philosophy here in Washington. In so many ways, she is a perfect successor to Representative Young, who worked hard to make sure his fellow Republicans understood Alaskans' unique challenges and preferences on major issues.

□ 1845

In similar fashion, Representative PELTOLA will be an important addition to the House, helping us better understand the perspectives of rural and Native communities and the special concerns of Alaskans as our majority works to deliver results and expand opportunities for all Americans.

I know, Madam Speaker, MARY will be warmly welcomed to the House by all of her colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Because Alaska has only one at-large Representative in the House, the honor falls to me today, as the senior-most Member of our party, to introduce her. It is an honor I wholeheartedly accept, and I now ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming Alaska's new Representative and someone we will all very shortly be calling our good friend, MARY PELTOLA.

THE SPEAKER. It is the custom of the House for Members of the delegation to join the newly elected and sworn-in Members. So if the Senators would like to join her in the well, they are most welcome. As the dean of the delegation, you are welcome to join her in the well, and any of our other colleagues who would like to join MARY PELTOLA in the well. We invite other Native Americans to join.

MR. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Alaska (Mrs. PELTOLA).

Mrs. PELTOLA. Madam Speaker, I thank Leader HOYER for the very kind introduction and most especially for his words about my predecessor, Congressman for all Alaska, Don Young.

I thank you, Speaker PELOSI, Minority Leader McCARTHY, and so many of my colleagues from both parties who have been very kind in welcoming me to the House of Representatives.

I am also so grateful to have my husband, my seven children and their loved ones, two grandchildren, and two sisters here with me this week. I couldn't do this without their love and support and votes.

It is the honor of my life to represent Alaska, a place my elders and ancestors have called home for thousands of years, where to this day many people in my community carry forward our traditions of hunting and fishing.

I am humbled and deeply honored to be the first Alaska Native to be elected to this body, the first woman to hold Alaska's House seat. But to be clear, I am here to represent all Alaskans. I will work every day to make all Alaskans proud that they have entrusted me to carry their voices here.

I am excited to work with all of you, to explain and take action to address Alaskans' needs, just as you did with my predecessor, the Congressman for all Alaska, Don Young.

Like all Alaskans, I mourned his passing. In Yupik, when we lose a loved one, we say "this is not the end." "Tua-i-ngunrituq."

Don was a true institution, an Alaska icon, someone who fought so hard and

so well for our State for 49 years. I know many of you loved Don, and I am sorry for your loss, too. I am committed to securing his legacy of bipartisanship and a deep respect for this institution. In my few days in Washington, I have already begun forming friendships with colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Now, I might have a different approach than Don. You know how soft-spoken he was. But you will still be hearing all about Alaska, our people, and our State's unique needs.

I promised Alaskans I would fight for our families, to lower the cost of living that is pushing too many of us to the brink, to invest in high-quality childcare and early education, and to grow Alaska's economy with good jobs that pay a fair wage.

Resource development is important to Alaska's economy and our national energy security, and I look forward to working to ensure our State remains a global leader.

I also committed to fighting for our fish. For so many Alaska communities, fish are life. Our fish harvest is the best in the world. Half of the wild salmon sold in the world comes from our State, supporting good jobs that sustain strong communities. Subsistence fishing is not only an essential food source for so many Alaska families and communities, it is a sacred part of our traditions.

Again, thank you for your warm welcome. We have a lot to get done, and I am looking forward to getting to work.

"Thank you very much." "Quyana cakneq."

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE PATRICK RYAN TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THE SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) is recognized for 1 minute.

MR. NADLER. Madam Speaker, as the dean of the New York delegation, I have the distinct honor to rise today to introduce the new Member of the House of Representatives from New York's 19th Congressional District, Representative PATRICK RYAN.

Representative RYAN is a fifth generation New Yorker who was born and raised in Kingston, New York. After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, he served our Nation as an Army intelligence officer and deployed for two combat tours in Iraq.

Returning to New York as a decorated veteran, Congressman RYAN went on to become a successful small business owner before returning to public service as the County Executive of Ulster County.

As County Executive, Representative RYAN has been shown to be a dedicated public servant, and I know he does not take his new role lightly.

As the dean of the delegation, I know I speak on behalf of the entire delegation when I say that Representative

RYAN will be a wonderful colleague whose experience, entrepreneurial leadership, and history of devoted service to our country will help this Chamber navigate the challenges of our times.

I am now honored, Madam Speaker, to yield to a fellow New Yorker (Mr. RYAN).

Mr. RYAN of New York. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. NADLER for those kind words and introduction. I am proud to rise today as one of the newest Members and Representatives in the House, serving the great people of New York's 19th Congressional District.

On a clear, crisp May morning in 2004, I stood proudly with my West Point classmates, raised my right hand, and solemnly swore an oath to protect and defend our Constitution from all enemies, foreign and domestic. I still vividly remember the mix of emotions I felt as my classmates and I tossed a thousand white service caps simultaneously into the air—elation, relief, honor, pride, but mostly the tremendous weight of responsibility that came with that oath.

I didn't know exactly what lay ahead, but I knew I would soon lead troops in combat and that it would be my job to protect my fellow soldiers, to serve my country, to serve my community, to make difficult decisions with life or death consequences, and always to maintain my integrity, no matter what.

Today, 18 years later, I am so proud to have renewed that oath to protect and serve our great Nation. The weight of the responsibility I feel today standing before you-all is even greater. The same way that I fiercely protected my fellow soldiers, I will fight for my constituents, the community that raised me, that sent me care packages every single week when I was deployed overseas, that has had my back every step of the way. I will fight for their health, I will fight for their safety, and I will fight for their freedom.

As I look up into the gallery, I can see my wife, Rebecca, and our two young boys, Theo and Cameron.

Theo is clapping. Good job, buddy.

They are extremely well behaved tonight, and for that we are greatly appreciative.

They are 3 years old and 9 months old. They are too young to fully appreciate the significance of this day and this moment, but I cannot wait to explain to them the immense pride I feel standing here before you, with you, my distinguished colleagues, humbly representing my community.

This is a moment of immense consequence and challenge for our country. I truly believe it is an all-hands-on-deck moment for our democracy.

I pledge that I will fight every single day, with every ounce of my being, to deliver for the great people of New York's 19th Congressional District and to renew trust and faith in our Nation.