

**SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE
ERICA LEE CARTER, OF TEXAS,
AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE**

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Texas, the Honorable Erica Lee Carter, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

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

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

There was no objection.

**SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE
TONY WIED, OF WISCONSIN, AS A
MEMBER OF THE HOUSE**

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Wisconsin, the Honorable Tony Wied, 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 Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS-ELECT

The SPEAKER. Will the Representatives-elect present themselves in the well.

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

Mrs. Lee Carter of Texas and Mr. Tony Wied of Wisconsin 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 118th Congress.

**WELCOMING THE HONORABLE
ERICA LEE CARTER TO THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome to the House a new addition from Texas, ERICA LEE CARTER. This is a somewhat bittersweet moment for all of us because it was only a few months ago that we gathered here to commemorate the life and legacy of her mother, Sheila Jackson Lee. There is more than physical resemblance between the two.

When I was elected in 1994 in the same small class of 13 that Sheila was a Member of, ERICA was a teenager. She has been here a number of times over the three decades that Sheila served. Sheila was a fierce advocate for justice who fought relentlessly for her community. ERICA, I know, has her mother's tenacity and her compassion.

She carries on a legacy of helping those with the least. She has led initiatives on economic equality and voting rights in Harris County. She spearheaded a funding drive for after-school programs. She has also worked to end discriminatory practices in the workplace and uplift minority- and women-owned businesses.

She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She earned a master's degree at Duke University's Terry Sanford School of Public Policy. She began her career as an elementary schoolteacher in Houston. Her expertise in the classroom and in making education more accessible for every child, regardless of ZIP Code, is a great example of why her strong voice will be valuable.

While cancer cruelly cut Sheila's term short and ERICA will be with us for a short time, I believe that we can count on her to continue carrying the torch for social justice in whatever role she may play, and we welcome her tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mrs. LEE CARTER), our new colleague for her maiden speech.

Mrs. LEE CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman DOGGETT, my fellow colleagues in the Texas delegation, and Mr. JEFFRIES for welcoming me to the House.

I, Congresswoman ERICA LEE CARTER, rise on behalf of the 18th Congressional District of Texas to return their voice and their vote to this esteemed body, the United States House of Representatives, to finish the 118th Congress with dignity, honor, and service.

I thank God, the author and finisher of my faith, for this awesome privilege, which I do not take lightly.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my husband, Dr. Roy L. Carter, Jr., for his unwavering support and sense of humor that keeps me going. To my twin children, Roy Lee Carter, III, and Ellison Bennett Carter, I love you with all of my heart.

To my father, Dr. Elwyn C. Lee, your unconditional love and guidance has continued to lift me.

To my brother, Jason Lee, and cousin Whitney, thank you for being my biggest supporters.

To the Jacksons, Lees, Carters, Cannons, and other extended family, thank you for being with me throughout this enormously challenging time and serving as a source of strength and support.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be the fifth person to serve the 18th Congressional District of Texas, a line of service which began with the Honorable Barbara Jordan, who was the first

Black woman from the South to be elected to Congress. She was followed by the Honorable Mickey Leland, a global humanitarian who brought attention to the suffering of many around the world, particularly on the continent of Africa.

After Mickey came the Honorable Craig Washington, who was an astute jurist. Then came my mother, the Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, a prolific legislator who served as a bridge from the civil rights era till now, and a dedicated public servant who was committed to making America better for her children.

I rise in the memory of my mother, the late, great Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, who served this Chamber for nearly three decades. Her legacy of fierce advocacy, a voice for the voiceless, her unwavering commitment to speak truth to power shaped the lives of countless Americans. Her eloquence and mastery in the art of legislation brought forth reforms that echoed from Houston to the entire Nation.

She was a social justice leader who advocated tirelessly for women, survivors of violence, and the wrongfully accused. As a senior member of the Judiciary Committee, she always fought to ensure that the United States Constitution was a living, breathing document that lived up to its promise for all people. She held it close and knew it could create a more perfect Union that we all desire.

This is why she was proud to be the lead sponsor of the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act to recognize when freedom reached all America's shores. As an early member of the Homeland Security Committee, she worked to keep Americans safe at home and abroad and supported creating the Transportation Security Administration.

She was known to work across the aisle through all Presidential administrations and congressional terms, doing what was necessary to make progress, bring resources back to Houston, and bend the moral arc of the universe toward justice.

On behalf of my family, friends, and the 18th Congressional District, I offer my heartfelt thanks to her colleagues, now mine, who offered their support during her illness and beyond. Your kindness was a great comfort to her, and it reassured her that her work would endure.

As for this moment tonight, while joyful, it is bittersweet because I wish she were standing at this podium to finish the 118th Congress on her own terms. Nevertheless, there is much work to do, and it is my honor to finish what she started alongside each of you.

Mr. Speaker, I will stand for justice, freedom, economic opportunity, and the dignity for all Americans. I am so proud to serve all the people of the 18th Congressional District of Texas that starts near the bottoms of Third Ward, travels through Freedmen's Town where the newly emancipated slaves

settled and began to celebrate Juneteenth, steps into the Fifth Ward, the birthplace of Barbara and Mickey, travels toward the resilient Independence Heights, moves to North Forest then Humble, and then west toward Acres Homes.

Mr. Speaker, I pledge every day to work hard for my constituents because every day they work hard to reach their American Dream. I am grateful for this moment in time to do this work and be a small part of my mother's tremendous legacy in this body. May God bless our work and may God bless the United States of America.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE TONY WIED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the newest member of the Wisconsin delegation, TONY WIED, on being sworn in this evening.

TONY joins our delegation with an impressive three-decade career of starting, building, and running three retail outlets in northeast Wisconsin, including Dino Stop locations in Green Bay, Ledgeview, Manitowoc, New Franken, Little Suamico, and Abrams.

Through his years in business, TONY has learned a lot about the value of hard work, strong customer service, and uniting people around a common mission.

TONY has employed hundreds of Wisconsinites over the years and now brings that same commonsense business acumen to this body, where it is greatly needed. We need more people dealing with the common sense that requires you to be a small businessman, and he is going to help the everyday Americans pursue the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to TONY; his wife, Angela; and his four sons: Charlie, Frank, George, and Simon on this momentous occasion.

I certainly had a chance to see his four sons on the campaign trail. They are like a whirlwind across northeastern Wisconsin.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. WIED).

Mr. WIED. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Wisconsin, the Republican Dean of the delegation, Congressman GLENN GROTHMAN, for yielding.

I will start by expressing my deepest gratitude to my wife of 24 years, Angela, and also to my four boys and my mom and dad.

Family is everything to me, and all of you have made this journey so much fun and special. I also thank my constituents for placing their trust in me. It is a privilege to serve you and an honor of a lifetime.

Our country faces a lot of difficult challenges: record-high inflation, a

border crisis, and increasing crime rates in our neighborhoods, to name only a few.

Now is the time to bring some Wisconsin common sense to Washington to lower costs, secure our border, and rein in out-of-control government spending.

I ran for Congress to solve America's toughest problems, and I pledge to work with my congressional colleagues to lower prices for northeast Wisconsin's middle-class families, small businesses, and farmers by putting more money back in their pockets.

Mr. Speaker, I am excited to get to work.

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 oaths of office to the gentleman from Texas and the gentleman from Wisconsin, the whole number of the House is 434.

EQUAL TREATMENT OF PUBLIC SERVANTS ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5342) to amend title II of the Social Security Act to replace the windfall elimination provision with a formula equalizing benefits for certain individuals with noncovered employment, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 175, nays 225, answered “present” 1, not voting 33, as follows:

[Roll No. 457]

YEAS—175

Aderholt	Clyde	Fry
Alford	Cole	Fulcher
Allen	Collins	Gonzales, Tony
Amodei	Comer	Gonzalez, V.
Arrington	Crawford	Good (VA)
Babin	Crenshaw	Gooden (TX)
Baird	Cuellar	Gosar
Balderson	Curtis	Graves (MO)
Barr	Davidson	Green (TN)
Bean (FL)	De La Cruz	Greene (GA)
Bentz	DesJarlais	Griffith
Bergman	Diaz-Balart	Guest
Bice	Donalds	Guthrie
Bilirakis	Duarte	Hagaman
Bishop (NC)	Duncan	Harris
Bost	Dunn (FL)	Harshbarger
Brecheen	Edwards	Hern
Burchett	Ellzey	Hill
Burgess	Emmer	Hinson
Burlison	Estes	Houchin
Cammack	Ezell	Hudson
Carey	Fallon	Huizenga
Carl	Feenstra	Hunt
Carter (GA)	Finstad	Issa
Carter (TX)	Fitzgerald	Jackson (TX)
Case	Fleischmann	James
Ciscomani	Flood	Johnson (LA)
Cline	Fong	Johnson (SD)
Cloud	Franklin, Scott	Jordan

Joyce (PA)	Miller (WV)	Sessions
Kelly (MS)	Miller-Meeks	Simpson
Kiggans (VA)	Mills	Smith (NE)
Kim (CA)	Moolenaar	Smucker
LaHood	Moore (AL)	Spartz
LaMalfa	Moore (UT)	Steel
Lamborn	Moran	Steil
Langworthy	Murphy	Steube
Latta	Nehls	Strong
LaTurner	Norman	Tenney
Lee (FL)	Nunn (IA)	Thompson (PA)
Lesko	Obernolte	Tiffany
Letlow	Ogles	Timmons
Lopez	Owens	Turner
Loudermilk	Palmer	Valadao
Lucas	Perry	Van Duyne
Luetkemeyer	Pfleger	Wagner
Luna	Posey	Walberg
Luttrell	Reschenthaler	Weber (TX)
Mace	Rodgers (WA)	Webster (FL)
Maloy	Rogers (AL)	Wenstrup
Mann	Rogers (KY)	Westerman
Massie	Rose	Wied
Mast	Rosendale	Williams (TX)
McClain	Rouzer	Wilson (SC)
McClintock	Roy	Womack
McCormick	Rulli	Yakym
Meuser	Scalise	Zinke
Miller (IL)	Schweikert	
Miller (OH)	Scott, Austin	

NAYS—225

Adams	Foxx	Menendez
Aguilar	Frankel, Lois	Meng
Allred	Frost	Molinaro
Amo	Garbarino	Moore (WI)
Auchincloss	Garcia (IL)	Morelle
Bacon	Garcia (TX)	Moskowitz
Balint	Garcia, Mike	Moulton
Barragan	Garcia, Robert	Mrvan
Beatty	Gimenez	Mullin
Bera	Golden (ME)	Nadler
Beyer	Goldman (NY)	Napolitano
Biggs	Gottheimer	Neal
Bishop (GA)	Graves (LA)	Neguse
Blumenauer	Green, Al (TX)	Nickel
Blunt Rochester	Grothman	Norcross
Boebert	Harder (CA)	Ocasio-Cortez
Bonamici	Hayes	Omar
Boyle (PA)	Higgins (LA)	Pallone
Brown	Himes	Panetta
Brownley	Horsford	Pappas
Budzinski	Hoyer	Pelosi
Bush	Hoyle (OR)	Peltola
Caraveo	Huffman	Pence
Carbajal	Ivey	Perez
Cárdenas	Jackson (IL)	Peters
Carson	Jackson (NC)	Pettersen
Carter (LA)	Jacobs	Phillips
Casas	Jayapal	Pingree
Casten	Jeffries	Pocan
Castor (FL)	Johnson (GA)	Porter
Castro (TX)	Joyce (OH)	Pressley
Chavez-DeRemer	Kaptur	Quigley
Cherfilus-	Kean (NJ)	Ramirez
McCormick	Kelly (IL)	Raskin
Chu	Kelly (PA)	Ross
Clark (MA)	Kennedy	Ruiz
Clarke (NY)	Khanna	Ruppersberger
Cleaver	Kildee	Rutherford
Clyburn	Kiley	Ryan
Cohen	Kilmer	Salinas
Correa	Krishnamoorthi	Sánchez
Costa	Kuster	Sarbanes
Courtney	LaLota	Scanlon
Craig	Landsman	Schakowsky
Crane	Larsen (WA)	Schiff
Crockett	Larson (CT)	Schneider
Crow	Lawler	Scholten
D'Esposito	Lee (CA)	Schrier
Davids (KS)	Lee (NV)	Scott (VA)
Davis (IL)	Lee (PA)	Self
Davis (NC)	Lee Carter	Sewell
Dean (PA)	Levin	Sherman
DeGette	Lieu	Sherrill
DeLauro	Lofgren	Slotkin
DelBene	Lynch	Smith (NJ)
Deluzio	Magaziner	Smith (WA)
DeSaulnier	Malliotakis	Sorensen
Dingell	Manning	Soto
Doggett	Matsui	Spanberger
Escobar	McBath	Stansbury
Eshoo	McCaul	Stanton
Espallat	McClellan	Staub
Fischbach	McCollum	Stevens
Fitzpatrick	McGarvey	Strickland
Fletcher	McGovern	Suozy
Foster	McIver	Swalwell
Foushee	Meeks	Sykes