

**SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION**  
**VOTER'S GUIDE RESPONSES**  
**ELECTION BY MAIL – BALLOTS DUE JUNE 11, 2022**

**Below you will find the candidate responses to two requests: short biographical information and an explanation of Why You Are Running for this office. Candidates had three weeks to respond including a follow-up reminder. At the end of the survey, you can find the names and contact information for those who didn't respond to this request, including links to email, websites, and/or social media where you might find more information. This information comes from the certified list of candidates on the Alaska Division of Elections website.**

### **Gregg Brelsford:**

**Biographical Information:** I drove to Alaska in 1972 and attended UAA while working full time for Alaskan tribes. I lobbied for them in Juneau and Washington, D.C. for decades. I founded the health department for the Chugach tribe. Later, as CEO of the Aleut tribe, I helped secure compensation for the Aleuts' internment during W.W. II, passed by Congress and signed by President Reagan.

Next, I earned a law degree at Harvard Law School, clerked for the Alaska Supreme Court, and practiced in Anchorage. Recently, I served as Manager of the Bristol Bay Borough and Dillingham (interim). I managed police, docks, and a sewage lagoon threatened by melting permafrost, while keeping the \$1+ billion salmon fishery going during Covid.

I resolved problems on-the-ground, making life better for Alaskans. I know how to get things done in Congress. No other candidate has this gut-level grasp of Alaska's challenges and how to fix them.

**Why I Am Running:** In an increasingly unstable world, we face exceptionally serious challenges. These include a perfect-storm of insufficient military capacity, lack of energy independence, rising prices for gas, groceries, and housing, and climate change.

I'll fight to keep our military second to none, develop Alaska's energy and other resources for independence and jobs, reduce high prices, protect Medicare and Social Security, and not hide our heads in the snow over climate change. Tribal sovereignty's time has come and more Native women will go missing and be murdered if we don't do better.

I will passionately protect democracy against unsubstantiated claims of election fraud and radical partisans who will try to overturn the sacred votes of our citizens if they lose next elections.

Alaskans are tired of extreme politics. As a no-drama, independent leader, I will vigorously fight to make us, and our hallowed democracy, stronger and more secure in today's unstable world.

Email address: [gregg@alaskansforgregg.com](mailto:gregg@alaskansforgregg.com) Website: <https://alaskansforgregg.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100070593060621>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/alaskans4gregg>

## Chris Bye:

**Biographical Information:** I am Chris Bye. The United States Army brought my family and me to Alaska in 2003. Armed with a Biology degree and a Wilderness First Responder Certificate, I use these to pass on the wonders that wild Alaska affords visitors and locals as a fishing guide. You can find us volunteering around Fairbanks, recently as a soccer coach. Twenty years of military experience including numerous leadership courses, leading 634 Soldiers and contractors, handling \$11.5 million budgets, 1235 pieces of equipment, and countless hours interacting with Soldiers, bureaucrats, foreign national leadership and citizenry has provided me with a front row seat to foreign policy and military affairs. I found that respect, dignity, and applying listening skills gets more accomplished than throwing money at an issue. I desire to see Alaskans succeed. As a retired service member and a fishing guide, I am not polluted by the political denominations that infect many other candidates.

**WHY I Am Running:** Have you gone to the voting booth and asked “Is this the best we’ve got?” or “do any of these people really represent me?”? This election cycle I am running: a wage-earning Alaskan, a neighbor, a coworker, a customer. I cannot sit idly by when professional politicians incur \$30T in debt, support endless wars, tacitly defend the Patriot Act, and ever expand their overreach. The two political parties have traded governance for activism and we are the bill payers. In 1959 we became a state and we are still waiting for DC bureaucrats to hand nearly 36m acres to us. What have our three politicians been doing besides spending money? We continue to educate young professionals and then export them because of limited opportunities here in Alaska- chiefly because of Federal restrictions and bureaucracy. I don’t care how you voted in the past; I care how you vote for our future.

Website: <https://itstimealaska.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AlaskasNextCongressman>

## Arlene Carle

**Biographical Information:** Born in North Bend, Washington, came to Alaska in 1970 through employment and, except for five years in Montana, have been in Anchorage since. Graduated cum laude with a BBA, Management, from the University of Alaska, Anchorage. I formerly held a variety of positions for a national insurance company. The last five years of employment, I worked as a claims litigation specialist resolving cases through direct negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and court settlement conferences. My father's family emigrated from Ukraine in the late 1800's and my mother's family has been here since before the American revolution. My

husband and I have a blended family with two girls, four boys, and lots of grandchildren. I was the Director of the Alaska Cribbage Club until recently, the secretary-treasurer for a vacation Homeowner Association in Oregon, and I have volunteered on the road committee in my own subdivision homeowner association.

**Why I Am Running.** I have never before run for political office but my concern for the direction our country is taking has moved me to take the leap. Our founding fathers gave us limited government, liberty, and individual freedom. That is being eroded by a federal government that wants to give us one-size fits all, a government where everything is dictated by a handful of professional politicians in Washington, D.C. The strength of our country comes from having fifty States, each one a possibility for a better idea. I hope in making my voice heard I can contribute to better ideas. Our energy policy is folly given current technology. It's costing jobs, causing inflation, and won't work in Alaska. Windmills freeze. Solar panels need sun. We have communities that are without sun for three months at a stretch. Our schools are failing our students. More money is not the answer. More taxes is not the answer.

Website: <http://akwebsites.com/carle4house>.

## **John B Coghill Jr**

**Biographical Information:** Born in Fairbanks Alaska, August 15, 1950. Residency in Alaska: 66 years. Military service for 5 years—USAF 1969-1974. Highschool Graduate of Nenana Public Schools. Worked in family businesses, construction work, pastoral service 15 years. Legislative service in House and Senate 22 years total. Currently an Emergency Shelter Director. Married to Luann 47 years, three adult children (Shaun, Joshua and Jayme) and eight grandchildren.

**Why I Am Running:** In this crowded field of candidates, I can understand the difficulty in choosing who to support. So please hear me out as I give you my reasons for running.

As a lifelong Alaskan, military and legislative veteran, I am compelled to offer my service to Alaska. The things I have learned and the people I have met in our communities all over Alaska, and with the many years serving as a church leader and policy maker and legislator, have drawn me to be a part of working to build, protect and promote our state.

I have a tried and true devotion to our people, our constitution, free market economy, individual liberty, and the value of every life. I value our different cultures, communities, economies while drawing us to work together for our state as it grows.

I couldn't face myself if I failed to help our state and nation at a time that we need patriotic, committed seasoned servants. So I offer myself as a candidate.

We who live in Alaska get to be the voice ( I often say Host Committee) of this geography called Alaska; and get to share with the whole world and our sister states. We are the Arctic, the Pacific, The Great Land. We are top of the world for transportation and national defense.

Our land is held in wonder for its grandeur and majesty by visitors and us residents. We get to speak up for this place and should be the most authoritative for her in this world.

Website: [coghillforcongress.com](http://coghillforcongress.com) Email: [john@coghillforcongress.com](mailto:john@coghillforcongress.com)

## Christopher Constant

**Biographical Information:** My name is Christopher Constant and I am running for Congress because Alaska's best days are ahead, and I see a pathway to get us there. I grew up in Santa Maria California where I was raised by a single mother who instilled in me the value of giving back to my community. I obtained a Bachelor's degree in English from California Polytechnic State University. I came to Alaska 25 years ago to work on a fishing boat but quickly realized I was home. I have worked for Akeela, a behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment provider, since 2011. My official role in public service started in 2009 when I joined the Fairview Community Council. I served in that capacity for nine years, then successfully ran for Anchorage Assembly. I have served the residents of the Municipality of Anchorage for 5 years.

My path to this election started with community service. I have spent thousands of hours volunteering in my community, including nine years on the Fairview Community Council, working to address homelessness and to undo the harmful effects of red-lining practices on the neighborhood. I was elected to the Anchorage Assembly in 2017 and re-elected in 2020. I currently serve as Vice Chair. In this role, I have led on many issues, but the most important to me include the Port of Alaska, resolving homelessness and managing the COVID-19 response for Alaska's largest city.

**Why I Am Running:** Over the past three years, I experienced first-hand how partisan politics have changed our society. Civil discourse has been replaced with something ugly and unrecognizable. I believe public service is about improving the lives of your neighbors in your city and state, not furthering an agenda for a political party at all costs. As a city leader during the COVID-19 pandemic, I worked to implement public safety measures to keep my community safe and our hospitals functioning. I stood strong in my leadership despite being threatened and ridiculed for following the best available science. If elected, I vow to take that resilience to Washington on behalf of Alaska, and to remain respectful to my colleagues. I have a proven record of bettering the lives of my neighbors through my years in local government. I want to work for all Alaskans to provide more hope and opportunity.

Website: <https://constantforcongress.com/>

## J. Otto Florschutz III

**Biographical Information:** I live in Wrangell, AK. I attended Beaufort County Community college in NC for 3 years, was elected President of the campus chapter of Gamma Beta Phi my last year. My wife and I raised 4 children.

I have been a commercial fisherman and businessman for 41 years and also worked part-time for Alaska Airlines for 16 years. I fought the US Park Service for fair treatment of commercial fishermen resulting in a precedent set for buy-outs of retired permits. Locally, I have served for 25 plus years on the Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee. Also elected 3 times to serve on the Wrangell Port Commission where we completed many projects including the Wrangell Marine Service Center with a 150 and 300 ton lift. The port hauls boats and local businessmen contract to do the maintenance. Sounds simple but was a hard sell and met opposition in the community.

**Why I Am Running:** I am a conservative person with wholesome conservative values: I work hard. I am pro life, besides donating money occasionally to pregnancy centers for ultrasound upgrades I have marched in the Right for Life March in Washington DC 3 times. I am a supporter of the 2nd amendment, I also believe in living within my means which is why I have no yard signs or TV spots. I am running to serve the people of Alaska. Congressman Young along with our Alaska Senators have many things they are working on. I hope to be able to from day one continue to work on those projects. On a national level I have been very disappointed with the current party in power. They have been creating many challenges for common everyday people. It will take a lot of work. One of my talents has been working with others, even in caustic situations and working towards consensus. Besides the community service before mentioned I have served in multiple church positions plus service like shoveling snow and doing repairs for seniors and those needing help.  
webpage: [ottoforalaska.com](http://ottoforalaska.com)

## Laurel Anne Foster

**Biographical Information:** \*Born in Bethel, Alaska. Length of residency in Alaska: 39 years, Anchorage, Alaska. \*Family: Two Children 19 years and 14 years, married. \*Education: Graduated Service High School class of 2001; United States Air Force, Security Forces Apprentice Course, 2008; United States Air Force Paralegal Apprentice Course, 2016; Bachelor of Arts, Justice Administration, 2018; United States Air Force Officer's Training Course, 2020. \*Occupation(s): Paralegal (Military Criminal Law, Corporate Utility Law, Child Need of Aid under Indian Child Welfare Act, Civil Family Law. \*Community Service: Mentor - Alaska Military Youth Academy, Covenant House, Priceless; Running Coach, Girls on the Run Southcentral. \*Other experience: Extensive leadership experience through military and civilian employers.

**Why I Am Running:** I care deeply for my state and the people that live here. It's important that Alaska's representatives reflect the diversity of its communities, and those representatives understand the different challenges these communities face. I am running because I understand both the rich culture of our rural and urban environment and understand one size fits all policy cannot fit such a diverse state. I am a natural advocate who isn't intimidated by the complexity of politics and believe it's time to bring the politics back to the people, who can exercise their power within our Democracy to promote change and ensure accountability of elected officials. It's time to empower the people and to put the people over the politics.

Website: <https://laurelforalaska.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/laurel4alaska>

## Al Gross

**Biographical Information:** My name is Al Gross, and I am running as a nonpartisan Alaskan for US Congress. I was born and raised in Southeast Alaska, and I am Alaskan through-and-through. My mother, Shari, founded the Alaska League of Women Voters and was the founding executive director of the United Fishermen of Alaska. My father, Avrum, was attorney general of Alaska and worked with Gov. Hammond to create Alaska's Permanent Fund. For almost 25 years my wife Monica and I worked as doctors in Juneau, and we raised our four children there. I understand the importance of healthy communities, including healthcare cost and access, to

Alaskans. Since high school I also have worked as a commercial fisherman, and I continue to gillnet salmon in Southeast. We moved to Anchorage four years ago, but we also own a home in Petersburg. I know firsthand what makes Alaska special: our people and our land.

**Why I Am Running:** I'm running for Congress because Alaska needs a new leader, a bold vision, and a strong voice. As a lifelong Alaskan, I know what happens when oil production declines, fisheries collapse, healthcare and transportation costs skyrocket, and businesses shut their doors. I understand when inflation and rising prices make it harder to take care of your family. My top priority as your congressman will be to revitalize our state's economy. I am a hard-working doctor and a fisherman, and I am ready to work for you. I will deliver capital projects to the state and create new jobs. I will expand our energy sector, lower transportation and healthcare costs, support issues important to Alaska Native Peoples, invest in our military and Arctic defense, and fight for sport and commercial fisheries. I am excited to be your next congressman. I have a great vision for Alaska and a strong independent voice.

Website: <https://dralgrossak.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dralgrossak/>

Instagram: [@dralgross](https://www.instagram.com/dralgross)

## Don Knight

**Biographical Information:** I'm a pilot who arrived in AK from NH via my Cessna 172 on Jun. 13th 1969 and also a Flight Instructor, I've been a squadron commander in both the Alaska Air National Guard, and the Civil Air Patrol. My main occupation has been as a mechanical engineer on three major pipeline projects, most notably the Trans Alaskan Pipeline as the DOI Asst. Construction Coordinator for all aspects of the project.

I am married and have three amazing daughters and two grandsons. Since retirement we travel extensively throughout the USA and beyond.

**Why I Am Running:** My decision to run was based on my belief that our legislative system needs improvement at Local, State, and Federal levels.

The problems that I see include the following

1. To solve Issues, voters need to remain in the loop. Electing a representative and then not continuing to be involved in the resolution has not worked.
2. Representatives are not elected to represent themselves, but the voters. They need to know *your* issues. This is the voters' government. We need to stop giving it away to the elected. Expecting others to solve *the issues you see* doesn't work. Representatives are your tool, not your genie.
3. Being a candidate has already given me considerable insight. Candidates don't need a dynasty name to succeed, or to spend a lot of money to become known to the voters. Unfortunately, at present this is more difficult than it should be.

My philosophy as a candidate.

1. I won't ask for your vote, but rather let you get to know who I am so that you can make a better choice.
2. I will not campaign against other candidates. Each voter can get to know the candidates as they choose and make their choice.
3. We are all individuals unlike any other. So to me it is obvious that we need to listen to each other and learn from each other. I like to say we can learn from 3 year olds as well as 103 year olds!

4. At present, I don't have a website, or U-Tube presentations, although I hope to create one or both if time permits.
5. To do my best to be honest, to act in the best interest of Alaskans and of all in the USA, to take and honor the oath of office, and have empathy for and make an effort to "Love (care for) one another"

Email: [AnewDONforALASKA@gmail.com](mailto:AnewDONforALASKA@gmail.com)

## Jeff Lowenfels

**Biographical Information:** Born in New York, March 10, 1949. Alaska resident since 1975.

Education: Scarsdale High 1967, Harvard College 1970, Northeastern Law School 1975.

Work Experience: Partner in Lewis & Lowenfels, representing inventors 1999-present; CEO, VP, General Counsel, Yukon Pacific Corporation 1989-1999; Partner, Birch Horton Bittner and Cherot 1982-1989; Assistant Attorney General 1975-1982; Introduced pizza by the slice via Legal Pizza 1975-1979; Board and Bio Ag consultant; Author of 5 award-winning science/gardening books.

Family: Happily married to Judith Hoersting (48 years), raised two wonderful children in Anchorage and now have 2 terrific grandchildren. Past boards include Gardenwriters of America (past president), Alaska Botanical Garden, Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling, Commonwealth North (past president), Arctic Power, Providence Community council, Mayor's Beautification Committee. ADN Garden columnist for 46 years. Founder: Plant a Row for The Hungry.

**Why I Am Running:** I am running to serve Alaska in a way *other* than answering gardening questions or sitting on boards and commissions... both of which I have done. Thanks to Alaska, I was blessed with a unique legal practice and business career. As a natural resources attorney, I gained extensive experience with Alaska land, resource issues and statutes, worked with an awful lot of the Federal agencies on behalf of clients that included mining interests, Corporate and Village ANSCA entities, oil and gas companies and more. I will use this experience to ensure our interests are not forgotten during the House legislative process and to assist Alaskans when working with the federal government.

Social Media: Website: [www.alaskansforjeff.com](http://www.alaskansforjeff.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AlaskansForJeff>

Instagram @alaskansforjeff

## Robert "Bob" Lyons

**Biographical Information:** I've been in Alaska for most of my life, from the Delta, Greely to Fairbanks, and Bethel. That is where I met my wife Alexandria, a Yupik woman from Kipnuk out west. Our two children, Annemarie 21 and William turning 16, they both know what is at risk in the upcoming election, little rabbits have big ears. My father was military, US Army, his life dream was to get to Alaska. Dad sacrificed much to achieve it. I've worked in the airlines in bush Alaska throughout my twenties, operated truck and equipment for 15 years. I currently reside in Mat-Su Valley with my family. I have a BA in Psychology with a minor in history, an AA in Gen Ed with a human service.

I built my homes, my cabin I built by hand working on my rental projects and such. I have hauled fuel in frozen weather and pulled bulldozers from the frozen overflows. I have helped weld floats in cold lakes and driven over the icy river road as it rumbles and groans!

Community service: I have dragged the homeless from the frozen snow and given them blankets. I worked some in local government in the valley, working on parks and rec projects. I have waited hours in lines at food-banks for people really affected directly by poor policy. I have walked day in and day out assisting addicts with recovery, I have put my dear Alaskan brothers in the ground. I know our people.

**Why I Am Running:** I stated openly why I entered this race since I started in October 2021, well before Don's passing, his votes, his age and his need to retire. I wish his family the best, I always voted for Don, as many in Alaska can say. I witnessed the direction we have been going and the pain brought with the mandates and illegitimate lockdowns, the firing of our neighbors. I am tired of the big name, "say what you want to hear " politicians and believe Alaskans need some defense against the wolves that smelled Don's position coming open, and want to pursue interests other than representing the Alaskan people. A true and honest voice was needed. I am vowing a 2 term limit and would like to hand the baton off to a new generation of Alaskans. Alaska Interested Alaskans. I have worked downtown in Anchorage and in the valley and out west witnessing the horrors of the drug epidemic and the results of our entrenched political class and the suffering of our communities. We need a strong voice to carry through for our people. Thank you Alaskans for hearing me out.

**website and/or social media account:** [www.alaskansvotebob.com](http://www.alaskansvotebob.com); **FB and GAB and Gettr.**

## **J. R. Myers**

**Biographical Information:** Born in Great Falls, Montana on 01/03/1963; have lived in Alaska since 2003; reside outside of Soldotna in the Kenai Peninsula Borough; graduated from CMR High School in Great Falls, MT in 1981; earned my Bachelor of Science, Master of Human Services and Master of Professional Counseling degrees. I am a Nationally Certified Counselor and a Master Addictions Counselor; a Licensed Professional Counselor and Counselor Supervisor in Alaska. I am the founder and Chairman of the Alaska Constitution Party, now part of the Life & Liberty Caucus of the LP. I have served as Vice Chairman of the Alaskan Independence Party. I have recently become a Lifetime Member of the Libertarian Party, which I initially joined 12/1981. I have been an elected precinct committeeman of the Reform and Republican parties. I was the 2014 Alaska Constitution Party nominee for Alaska Governor, garnering 6,987 votes statewide. My other service includes the following: Member, ANTHC Behavioral Health Academic Review Committee; Chairman, Alaska Counseling Association; Chairman Kenai/Soldotna Mental Health Task Force; Chairman Kenai Peninsula Counseling Association; Chairman Montana Coalition of Disabilities; Montana Mental Health Citizens Advisory Committee; Board Literacy Volunteers of America, Montana; Montana Coalition Against Poverty; Board member Great Falls Native American Association/Health Clinic; Board member for Haines Borough Fire Service Area #1, and for Kenai Peninsula Borough Central Emergency Services.

**Why I Am Running:** \*Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness! That is what I advocate. We all want a strong and prosperous Alaska, a strong and prosperous America. This has been

increasingly imperiled by the same as usual policies of the same as usual old parties. It's time to move past that failed model. If we truly want freedom, we can no longer do things, as usual.

\*Alaskans deserve someone in Washington, D.C. who isn't afraid to speak truth to power, and to assertively engage other leaders to accomplish the best for our people. Alaskans deserve someone smart, bold and courageous representing them in Congress.

\*We were given a Republic, if we could keep it!?!? This applies to both Alaska and to the United States of America. It will take all of us working together to restore our Republic. Are we up to the task? Government of, by and for the people requires each of us to be informed, ever vigilant and civically active.

\*I know the value of being connected and working together for the common goal of building our Alaskan community. Unprecedented times require unprecedented solutions. I would be honored to serve as the Representative for All Alaskans in the House of Representatives in Washington, D.C.

Website: <http://Johnrichardmyers.com>

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/J.R.MYERSforAlaska>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/JohricmyeJ>

## **Emil Notti**

**Biographical Information:** Personal: Born Koyukuk, Alaska, 1933; lived in Alaska most of my life except for military service and college.

Education: Mt. Edgecumbe High School; Marshall College, Huntington, West Virginia; Northrop Institute of Technology, Graduated BSEE-BSAE

Occupational: Alaska Commissioner of Community and Regional Affairs; Alaska Commissioner of Commerce, Community and Economic Development; Doyon Limited, President; AFN, First President

Military: US Navy during Korean War, 4 Years, Honorable Discharge

Honors: Honorary Doctor, Alaska Methodist University; Honorary Doctor, University of Alaska Anchorage; Outstanding Public Service, Sheldon Jackson College.

## **Dr. Robert Ornelas**

**Biographical Information:** Dr. Robert Ornelas from the American Independent Party is a Conference Keynote Speaker, National Youth Advocate, former AIPCA State Chairman, and a former 2012 U.S. Vice Presidential Candidate. He is passionate about his Native American and Indigenous roots throughout North America and the South Pacific.

**Why I Am Running:** \*Not in agreement with the Bering Strait Railway Tunnel beneath the Bering Strait between the U.S. State of Alaska and Russia Chukotka region. We don't need Russian troops from the other side invading the same way they are invading Ukraine.

\*We should be concerned with border towns in Alaska that do not have access to schools, groceries, and medical. We need better relations with Canada. \*The U.S. can not rely on natural gas coming from Russia. We must end unnecessary restrictions on petroleum and natural gas extractions.\*Move State Capitol from Juneau, Alaska to Wasilla, AK.\*We must end age

discrimination for State Militia. \*Direct the NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) to fix the maritime boundary between Little and Big Diomedes Islands Pursuant to UNCLOS 1 of 1958. \*Clarification of Pains and Penalties.

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Website: [www.aipca.org](http://www.aipca.org)

## **Mary S. Petola**

**Biographical Information:** I am a Yup'ik Eskimo and salmon advocate who represented the Bethel region in the Alaska House of Representatives for 10 years. During that time I helped rebuild the Bush Caucus, which improved the quality of life in rural Alaska while I was Chair.

For the past five years I served as Executive Director of the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, where I helped bring together 118 Tribes and rural Alaskans to advocate for the protection of salmon runs in Western Alaska.

I served on the Orutsararmiut Native Council Tribal Court and the Bethel City Council, and on the boards of the Nature Conservancy, the Alaska Humanities Forum, the Alaska Children's Trust, Foreaker and the Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska.

I spend summers with my husband Buzzy and our seven children and two grandchildren fishing on the Kuskokwim River, where I began fishing commercially with my father at age six.

**Why I Am Running:** Alaska's next representative will shoulder the heavy responsibilities of bringing federal money back home and championing the diverse interests of rural and urban Alaskans. In the face of environmental and economic challenges, we need the federal government to help stabilize and responsibly develop our state economy for the benefit of living and future generations. That means supporting critical infrastructure projects and working individuals and families, and providing high quality and affordable education and health care.

Everyone in Alaska deserves to live in a safe community. I want to address the climate emergency and ensure responsible resource development so that future generations can remain connected to the land through our cultures and ways of life, including food and jobs.

As our next representative, I'll pursue both the stability and progress that our state needs.

Website: [www.marypeltola.com](http://www.marypeltola.com) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Peltola4Congress](https://www.facebook.com/Peltola4Congress) Twitter: <http://twitter.com/MaryPeltola>

## **Tara Sweeney**

**Biographical Information:** I grew up in rural Alaska and am a lifelong Alaska resident, educated at Barrow High School and Cornell University. I'm an enrolled member of the Native Village of Barrow and the Iñupiat Community of the Arctic Slope and a shareholder of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation. My career spans from small-business owner to executive leadership within Alaska's largest privately owned company. In 2018, I was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as the 13th Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs at The U.S. Department of the Interior. I was honored to be the first Alaska Native to serve within the Federal Government in this capacity. I've served as the co-chair of the Alaska Federation of Natives and as international chair at the Arctic Economic Council. I serve on several boards including, The Ted Stevens Foundation, First National Bank of Alaska, Seven Glaciers and Alaskans for Commonsense. I have spent my life advocating at the federal level for public policies important to Alaska's economy. My husband and I live in Girdwood and have two grown children.

**Why I Am Running:** I'm running for U.S. Congress because Alaska needs effective leadership in Washington, D.C. Like you, I represent the fabric of Alaska. I'm the mother that worries about the health, education, and well-being of my children. I'm a small business owner. I value Alaska's vast natural resources, and our high environmental standards. I care deeply about the impacts of our changing climate, and I'm alarmed by federal policies that disproportionately impact our state. I love the bounties provided by the land and sea. I am focused on delivering results for Alaska. We need a robust economy, strong labor force and investment into infrastructure across the state to improve the quality of life in our communities. We need to promote development of our natural resources, maximize our strategic location in the interest of national security and arrest the growing trends of social challenges impacting Alaskans and our communities.

**Website:** [www.taraforalaska.com](http://www.taraforalaska.com)

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/taraforalaska>

**Instagram:** <https://instagram.com/taraforalaska>

## Jo Woodward

**Biographical Information:** Born in Georgia on a New Year's Day; I have resided in many US States; Visited Alaska twice before my final move in 2012/Fairbanks. Education: Vocational training, College, Certificates, edX.com & Alaskax.com (online courses). Occupations: Small businesses to Nation-wide corporation employment. Some self-employment. Family: Mostly deceased. Community Service: First Baptist Church Fairbanks, The Oprah Show, Red Cross, League of Women Voters Tanana Valley, Fairbanks Senior Center, Arbor Day Committee, Fairbanks Genealogy Society, Fairbanks Homeless Coalition. Other Experience: High School officers e.g. president, treasurer. Volunteer: March of Dimes, United Way, Hospice

**Why I Am Running:** The reason I chose to become a candidate for the US House of Representatives for Alaska is to serve Alaskans and my friends (the wildlife). I see a need for the present and the future of Alaskans in health protection. I'd hope to introduce a major service that would keep Alaskans employed for years to come. Extending careers that could have students remaining in Alaska to attend college; engineering. The said project(S) if approved by Alaskans would surely have Congress' approval. The short-term vacancy offers minimal time for much change. There are current matters that require attention and upgrades in Alaskans' lives. All of which I hope to have a positive role in the advancements.

Due to the unexpected notice for vacancy I do not have a website for further introduction and information.

## Adam Wool

**Biographical Information:** I moved to Fairbanks, AK in 1982 from Boston to visit my brother and check out life in AK. I ended up taking classes at UAF and started a business (Hot Licks Ice Cream). I graduated with a physics degree but remained in the small business world. After selling my share of Hot Licks to my brother I opened The Marlin and subsequently the Blue Loon which I owned and operated until 2019 when I sold it.

I've been married for 20 years and have two children who are in Fairbanks public schools. The Blue Loon has hosted many national music acts such as Snoop Dogg, various lectures, visiting dignitaries such as Senators, Governors and a Supreme Court Justice. It was a vital part of the community and I'm proud to have been able to provide it to Fairbanks. I entered politics in 2014 when I ran for State House and have remained in that position ever since.

**Why I Am Running:** I'm running for office because on April 1, the filing deadline, I didn't see anyone who I was excited about and who I thought could win. I'm from a politically diverse district and have been elected 4 times. I can win in a region that doesn't always vote for people in my party. I have proven bi-partisan support. I've been a State rep for 8 years and have learned the job quite well. I work with both sides and know what it takes to get things accomplished. Being a legislator has prepared me for the next step which is to go DC and represent Alaska. I've been working in Juneau in a bi-partisan caucus with a very slim majority and I am able to compromise and get things done. I do not wish to get bogged down with wedge issues that only divide, I want to build bridges, both figuratively and literally.

Website: [www.adamwool.com](http://www.adamwool.com)

## **Stephen Wright:**

**Biographical Information:** Birthdate: 10/31/69; Born in Alaska; lived here continuously since 2009. Education: high school, post-secondary training, college attendance, degrees/certificates, etc Ephrata High School, Ricks College, Parks College, Wayland Baptist University, Alaska Pacific and University of Alaska Anchorage Southeast. masters and dual bachelor in Business and accounting. Occupation: Teacher, Instructor, Avionics and travel self employed. Family: wife Jessica 30 years, 5 adult sons 28 to 20 year old. Community service: USAF retired community service of excellent award 2005 AETC command. Other experience: ran for Congress in 2016 10k votes. Born in Alaska now fighting regulations to make us a full state less federal control from abolishing the Jones act to full requirements established in the Alaska constitution and the statehood act. Freedom, privacy and maximum benefits for all Alaska and our way of life. Making Alaska number one in resource development partnering with best practices and keeping politics out of developing the Alaska treasures and way of life. To secure and safeguard our land, our resources and our security through national defense act measures with access roads, bridges and railway securing our future.

**Why I Am Running:** To represent all of Alaska. See my bio and more information at this website: [stephenwrightalaska.weebly.com](http://stephenwrightalaska.weebly.com)

**Non-responding candidates: Info from the Alaska Division of Elections website**

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