



## **SPEAKER BIOS**

OCTOBER 19, 2018



### **The Hon. Congressman John Culberson**

As a fiscally conservative “Jeffersonian Republican,” Congressman John Culberson is committed to Thomas Jefferson’s vision of limited government, individual liberty, and states’ rights. Simply put, John Culberson believes in “Letting Texans Run Texas.”

John Culberson was elected in 2000 to represent the 7th District, a seat formerly held by President George H. W. Bush and House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer. In Congress, John’s priorities include restoring the 10<sup>th</sup> amendment, strengthening the economy by cutting taxes, creating jobs, and balancing the budget, securing the border, advancing medical and scientific research, and improving Houston transportation.

John is a member of the House Appropriations Committee, which is responsible for funding the federal government. His position on the committee allows him to rein in federal spending and promote less federal regulation and more local control. His subcommittee assignments include the Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Subcommittee, Homeland Security Subcommittee, and the Transportation Housing & Urban Development Subcommittee.

In November 2014, John was selected to lead the CJS Subcommittee, which oversees the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Science Foundation, and other related agencies. As Chairman, John is committed to ensuring that the Attorney General respects the rule of law and providing America’s law enforcement officers with the resources they need to protect our lives and property.

As a long-time space-enthusiast and NASA advocate, one of John’s top priorities is to see NASA return to its core mission of scientific research so that America remains the world-leader in space exploration. He is also a zealous advocate for increasing national investment in medical and scientific research, and recognizes that breakthroughs in these areas are vital to the economic and technological challenges we face in the 21st century.

He believes the lawlessness on the border requires immediate action, and in close cooperation with the Texas Border Sheriffs’ Coalition, he continues to secure federal funding for the sheriffs to enforce existing law and provide the necessary support for our Border Patrol agents.

John also believes in cost-effective transportation projects that reduce congestion on Houston’s busy freeways. His signature transportation project, the Katy Freeway expansion, is the nation’s first combination Interstate highway with locally-owned toll lanes. The project was finished years ahead of schedule, and according to TxDOT has cut travel time in half.

A life-long Texan, John Culberson earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Southern Methodist University in

## The Hon. Congressman John Culberson bio continued

Dallas in 1981. After college, he worked for his father's political consulting and advertising agency before earning a Juris Doctorate degree from South Texas College of Law in Houston. Before his election to Congress, he practiced law as a civil defense attorney with the Houston firm Lorance and Thompson.

In 1986, John was elected to the Texas House of Representatives while he was a law student. He spent 14 years in the Texas House and in his last term in 1999, he was selected by his peers to serve as Minority Whip. He is best remembered in Austin for his successful effort to restore state control of the Texas prison system from a federal judge. After introducing and passing legislation in the Texas House, and drafting key pieces of federal law, John fought in court on behalf of his legislation and the ruling returned full authority over state prisons to the Texas Legislature.

John and his wife, Belinda, have been married over 25 years and have a 21 year old daughter, Caroline. They are members of Memorial Drive United Methodist Church.



### **Cinnamon Edralin**

Senior Offshore Rig Market Analyst  
IHS Markit Petrodata

Cinnamon Edralin is a senior offshore rig market analyst for IHS Markit on the Petrodata team, and has been with IHS Markit (or ODS-Petrodata, which was acquired by IHS) since 2006. She manages the Houston rigs team and oversees the Americas Rigs Petrodaily newswire. She is also managing editor of World Rig Forecast: Short Term Trends, and contributes to RigPoint and RigBase, IHS Markit's web-based market intelligence databases. Cinnamon has a BA degree in liberal arts from the University of St. Thomas.



### **Fred Lawrence**

Vice President of Economics and International Affairs  
IPAA

Frederick Lawrence is the Vice President for Economics and International Affairs at the Independent Petroleum Association of America where he has worked since 1999. The IPAA is the national association that represents approximately 7,000 independent crude oil and natural gas explorers in the US. He provides industry analysis and statistics to membership, Congressional and Administration staff, media, and public including the Declaration of Independents oil analysis, state-level data in the Oil and Gas Producing Industry in Your State and the International Primer. He serves as staff liaison for the International and Supply & Demand Committees.

Fred has been published or quoted in major publications including The Financial Times, The Economist, Forbes, Business Week, Worth Magazine, Far Eastern Economic Review, America's Independent, The International Resource Journal, Christian Science Monitor, World Energy, The American Oil and Gas Reporter, the Associated Press, Reuters, Dow Jones, Argus Energy and others.

Previously, he served as Assistant Program Officer of the International Republican Institute's Asia Division, focusing on political and economic development initiatives in Mongolia, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, and Indonesia.

He received a B.A. in Asian history with honors from Middlebury College in 1992 and a Masters of Science (MSc.) in International Political Economics from the London School of Economics in 1999.