

2007 Roast and Toast - Harris County Tejano Democrats



Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee is serving her seventh term as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives where she represents the 18th Congressional District. Sheila earned a B.A. in Political Science from Yale University with honors, followed by a J.D. from the University of Virginia Law School. The Congresswoman sits on three Congressional Committees - the House Committees on the Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Foreign Affairs. In the Committee on the Homeland Security, she chairs the Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection.

The Congresswoman has authored several immigration bills, such as H.R. 2092, the "Save America Comprehensive Immigration Act of 2005", which sets forth a comprehensive and humane solution to the immigration problem. In the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Sheila serves on the Subcommittees on Africa and Global Health; the Middle East and South Asia; and the Western Hemisphere. In addition, The Congresswoman is a founder, member, and co-chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, the Afghan Caucus, Pakistan Caucus, and newly formed Algerian

Caucus. Sheila received the 2006 Award for Policy at the 16th Annual Phillip Burton Immigration & Civil Rights Awards. She has been hailed by "Congressional Quarterly" as one of the 50 most effective members of Congress and by "U.S. News and World Report" as one of the 10 most influential legislators in the House of Representatives.

Before her election to Congress, Sheila served two terms as one of the first African American women At-Large members of the Houston City Council, where she chaired the first Human Relations Committee, along with the Airport and Cable Committees. Prior to her Council service, she was an Associate Municipal Court Judge for the City of Houston. Sheila is married to Dr. Elwyn C. Lee, who holds a dual position of Vice Chancellor and Vice President for Student Affairs at the University of Houston System and the University of Houston, respectively. They have two children Erica, who is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and Duke University, and Jason, who is a second year student at Harvard University.