

Katy French Talento Biography

Katy French Talento serves as Special Assistant to the President on the Domestic Policy Council in the White House. She is the policy lead on health and social issues such as Obamacare, opioids, drug pricing, pro-life and religious liberty policy. She served in the same capacity (policy staff for health and social issues) to President-Elect Trump on the Transition Team and the Trump-Pence campaign.

Prior to her migration to Trump World, Katy was the Legislative Director for Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC). She returned to the Senate from the private sector, where she was the Vice President for Corporate Affairs at MosquitoZone International, a firm providing malaria protection to the workforce of energy companies in Africa and Asia. Prior to her private sector stint, Katy was the Republican Deputy Staff Director for the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. In this capacity, she helped manage the overall functioning of the committee for Ranking Member Susan Collins (R-ME), and oversaw the Governmental Affairs team that investigated waste, fraud, and ineffectiveness in government programs at every federal agency. She also led the successful effort to win Senate passage for comprehensive postal reform. Prior to this position, Katy took a hiatus from the Senate and served as the Director of Speechwriting at the Republican National Committee during the successful 2010 election cycle, under Chairman Michael Steele.

Katy first came to Capitol Hill in 2001 as a professional staff member for the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, the committee that sets the Senate public health and pro-life legislative agenda. She advised Chairman/Ranking Member Judd Gregg on public health issues, including biodefense, HIV/AIDS, malaria and other tropical diseases, cancer, women's health and public health infrastructure in global and domestic settings. She then joined Senator Sam Brownback's staff as a Senior Policy Advisor, advising the Senator on global and domestic health, foreign assistance, disability and labor issues. In this capacity, she drafted a pro-life bill that eventually became law, intended to reduce disability-based abortions and she recruited pro-choice Senator Edward Kennedy as the lead co-sponsor. In 2005, she helped start up newly elected Senator Coburn's oversight platform, serving as the Staff Director for his Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management. In that capacity, she shepherded into enactment Dr. Coburn's global health priorities on HIV/AIDS (including PEPFAR reauthorization), World Bank health programs, WHO and Global Fund reform, and USAID malaria program reform.

Katy holds a Master of Science degree in Infectious Disease Epidemiology from Harvard School of Public Health, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from the University of Virginia. She lives with her husband and two children in suburban Virginia.