



Kelly Nicole Lopez (SFSU 2021)

Ethnicity: British American and Chinese Thai

Place of Birth: Bangkok, Thailand

Party Affiliation: Democratic

Highest Elected Position: US Senator, IL (2017-now)

Other Positions:

US House of Representatives, IL (2013-17)

Tammy Duckworth

(b. March 12, 1968)

Tammy was born in Thailand and grew up in Hawai'i. Her father was an American of British descent, and her mother, a Thai of Chinese descent. When Tammy was a helicopter pilot for the National Guard during the Iraq War, her helicopter was shot down. She lost both her legs and the ability to move her right arm. She received the Purple Heart and retired as a lieutenant colonel. Tammy became the first Thai American woman and the first woman with a disability elected to Congress. She is credited for saving the Americans with Disabilities Act, and has supported immigration reform, abortion rights, gun control, and the environment. In 2011, the Daughters of the American Revolution erected a statue of Tammy's likeness in Mount Vernon, Illinois.