

## United States Senate

The Senate is made up of 100 members, two popularly elected from each state of the Union. Senators are elected to six-year terms; one-third of the members stand for election every two years. The U.S. Constitution requires that members of the Senate be at least 30 years old and citizens of the United States for at least nine years. The vice president of the United States serves as president of the Senate.

Historically, the role of the Senate has changed continually as the nation has developed. Originally, the Constitution provided that members of the Senate would be elected by the state legislature, and it was felt by the framers of the Constitution that the Senate would take a secondary role in the Congress, more of a revisory capacity to the House of Representatives. It was also felt that the Senate would remain insulated from rapidly changing popular election of the members. The Senate has, however, remained distinctively different from the House of Representatives. This has resulted from tradition, as well as Constitutional differences.



### U.S. SENATOR

#### Bill Frist (R)

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First elected to the U.S. Senate on November 8, 1994, **Bill Frist** was the only challenger to defeat a full-term incumbent in 1994 and the first practicing physician elected to the Senate since 1928. A fourth generation Tennessean whose great, great grandfather was one of Chattanooga's 53 original settlers, Frist was the 54th U.S. Senator from Tennessee and the 24th to fill the seat once held by Andrew Jackson. Born and raised in Nashville, Frist graduated in 1974 from Princeton University where he specialized in health care policy at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. In 1978, he graduated with honors from Harvard Medical School and spent the next several years in surgical training at Massachusetts General Hospital; Southampton General Hospital, Southampton, England; and Stanford University Medical Center. He is board certified in both general surgery and heart surgery. In 1985, Frist joined the teaching faculty at Vanderbilt University Medical Center where he founded and subsequently directed the multi-disciplinary Vanderbilt Transplant Center, which under his leadership became an internationally renowned center of multi-organ transplantation. In addition to performing 200 heart and lung transplant procedures, Frist has written more than 100 articles, chapters, and abstracts on medical research and four books: *Grand Rounds in Transplantation*, which he co-authored with J. H. Helderman; *Tennessee Senators 1911-2001: Portraits of Leadership in a Century of Change*, which he wrote with Lee J. Annis; and *When Every Moment Counts*, which he wrote to prepare families in the event of a bioterrorist attack. In the Senate, Frist currently serves on the Rules, Finance, Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committees. In 1999, he was named a Deputy Whip of the Senate; in 2000 Frist was tapped to head the National Republican Senatorial Committee; and in 2001 he was named one of two Congressional representatives to the United Nations General Assembly. In January of 2003, Senator Frist was elected to the post of Republican Senate Majority Leader by the members of the Republican caucus. Senator Frist and his wife, Karyn, have three sons: Harrison, Jonathan, and Bryan. They are Presbyterians.

The Constitution gives the Senate some powers that are not shared with the House of Representatives. Chief among them are the powers to advise and consent on treaties between our nation and foreign governments and confirm executive Cabinet members and federal judges appointed by the president.

With only 100 members, the Senate can afford to be more relaxed in conducting its legislative business. Also, because each senator is an “ambassador” from a sovereign state, he is afforded more deference and indulgence than any individual House member. The concept of “senatorial courtesy” allows each senator to exercise all of the prerogatives available to each member with the deferential respect of the other members. Traditionally, debate has been extensive in the Senate and the power to amend on the floor has remained very broad. The Senate may spend several days considering individual pieces of legislation.

The majority party elects a majority leader who becomes the central focus of partisan policy matters. The majority party also selects the committee chairmen and has control over most of the Senate staff.

#### U.S. SENATOR

#### Lamar Alexander (R)

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**Lamar Alexander** was born in Maryville, the son of a kindergarten teacher and an elementary school principal. He is a seventh-generation Tennessean. He was the first Tennessean to be elected governor for consecutive four-year terms and the first to be popularly elected both governor and United States Senator. He chairs the Senate Education and Early Childhood Development Subcommittee, the Senate Energy Subcommittee and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Caucus. Sen. Alexander has been U.S. Education Secretary, president of the University of Tennessee, and the Goodman professor at Harvard's School of Government. He was chairman of President Reagan's Commission on Americans Outdoors and the National Governors Association. In private life, he helped found a company that is now the nation's largest provider of worksite day care. In his campaign for governor, Lamar Alexander walked 1,000 miles across Tennessee in his now famous red and black plaid shirt. Once elected, he helped Tennessee become the third largest auto producer and the first state to pay teachers more for teaching well. He started Tennessee's Governor's Schools for outstanding students. He is a classical and country pianist and the author of seven books, including *Six Months Off*, the story of his family's life in Australia after he was governor. Lamar Alexander met Honey Buhler at a staff softball game when he worked for Sen. Howard H. Baker of Tennessee and she worked for Sen. John G. Tower of Texas. They were married in 1969 and have four children. He is an elder in Westminster Presbyterian Church.

## United States House Of Representatives

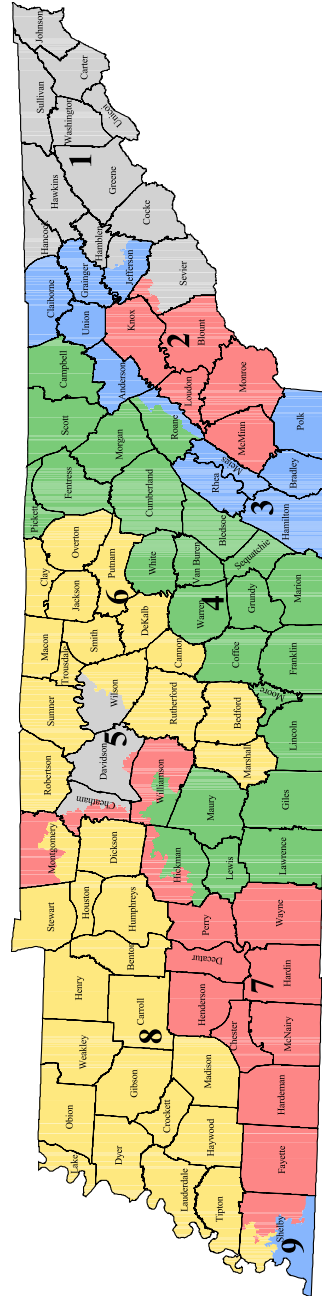
The U.S. House of Representatives is popularly elected every two years. Members must be 25 years old and must have been a citizen for at least seven years. The Constitution of the United States does not provide for the exact number of representatives; rather it leaves the matter up to Congress to determine. It does provide, however, that each state should have representation proportional to its population as part of the nation's population. The apportionment is to be recalculated every 10 years when a nationwide census is conducted to determine population.

Originally the House had 65 members. As state populations grew in relation to one another and as new states entered the union, Congress added additional seats rather than reduce any existing state delegations. By 1910, the House had grown to 435 members. Numerous attempts were made to increase the size further but the House and Senate could not agree on what action should be taken. In 1929, a law was passed which permanently set the number of representatives at 435 and provided for automatic reapportionment of these seats every 10 years. This process results in some states gaining seats and others losing seats depending on shifts in the population. In the 1971 reapportionment, Tennessee went from nine seats to eight. In 1981, the population proportions had shifted in the opposite direction, resulting in the return of a nine-member House delegation. The 1990 census population proportions again returned nine representatives from Tennessee to Congress. The drawing of districts within the state's boundaries is the responsibility of the General Assembly.

Unlike the Senate, the House of Representatives conducts its business through a complex system of rules and procedures. Debate is limited and the action taken in committees is much more difficult to modify through floor action. For the most part these differences are a result of the larger number of members, making organization a prerequisite to accomplishment. Action is much faster and party discipline has traditionally been more influential in shaping the nature of legislation.

The framers of the Constitution envisioned the House of Representatives as being more closely representative of the will and mood of the country. For this reason the Constitution provides that bills to create taxes must originate in the House. This was designed to protect the electorate from over-taxation or "unfair" taxes similar to those experienced under British rule.

### U.S. House of Representatives Districts\*



\*Map shows approximate area served.

- 1st – Carter, Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson in part, Johnson, Sevier in part, Sullivan, Unicoi, Washington
- 2nd – Blount, Knox, Loudon, McMinn, Monroe, Sevier in part
- 3rd – Anderson, Bradley, Claiborne, Grainger, Hamilton, Jefferson in part, Meigs, Polk, Rhea, Roane, Union
- 4th – Bledsoe, Campbell, Coffee, Cumberland, Fayette, Handeman, McNairy, Hardin, Henderson, Madison, Madison, Montgomery, Perry, Shelby in part, Wayne, Williamson in part
- 5th – Cheatham in part, Davidson in part, Wilson in part
- 6th – Bedford, Cannon, Clay, DeKalb, Jackson, Macon, Marshall, Overton, Putnam, Robertson, Rutherford, Smith, in part, Van Buren, Warren, White, Williamson
- 7th – Cheatham, Chester, Davidson in part, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Henderson, Hickman in part, McNairy, Montgomery, Perry, Shelby in part, Wayne, Williamson in part
- 8th – Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dickson, Dyer, Gibson, Haywood, Henry, Houston, Humphreys, Lake, Lauderdale, Madison, Montgomery in part, Obion, Shelby in part, Stewart, Tipton, Weakley
- 9th – Shelby in part
- 10th – Fentress, Franklin, Giles, Grundy, Hickman in part, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Marion, Maury, Moore, Morgan, Pickett, Roane, Scott, Sequatchie, Van Buren, Warren, White, Williamson in part
- 11th – Cheatham in part, Davidson in part, Wilson in part



**Congressman William L. "Bill" Jenkins (R)**

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Representing the First Congressional District since 1997, **William L. "Bill" Jenkins**, a seventh-generation Tennessean, previously worked as a family farmer and attorney in his hometown of Rogersville prior to his election in 1990 as a circuit court judge for Tennessee's Third Judicial District. He resigned his judicial position on May 10, 1996, to enter the congressional race. Elected to the Tennessee General Assembly at age 25 as state representative for Hawkins, Hancock, and Grainger counties, Jenkins holds the distinction of being the only Republican in the 20th century to be elected speaker. Jenkins

owns and operates a family farm with beef cattle and burley tobacco. A strong advocate for economic development and protection of our natural resources, Jenkins is a former Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Conservation and served as a policy advisor on energy and legislative issues to former Tennessee Governor Lamar Alexander. In 1971, Jenkins received a presidential appointment to serve as one of the three members of the Tennessee Valley Authority's board of directors. He is a former director of Home Federal Savings and Loan of Upper East Tennessee. Jenkins is married to the former Kathryn Myers, who taught at Cherokee Comprehensive High School in Hawkins County. They have four children and eleven grandchildren. Educated in the Rogersville and Hawkins County public school systems, Bill Jenkins earned degrees from Tennessee Technological University and the University of Tennessee College of Law before serving on active duty as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Military Police Corps. Jenkins is a member of the First Baptist Church of Rogersville, the Hawkins County Farm Bureau, the American Legion, Overton Masonic Lodge No. 5, the Tennessee Conservation League, and the Tennessee Bar Association. He is past chairman of the Tennessee Heart Association and Hawkins County Community Chest and past district chairman of the Cancer Crusade. His favorite hobbies are hunting and fishing. He is a member of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee and the U.S. House Agriculture Committee, of which he is subcommittee chairman of the Specialty Crops and Foreign Agriculture Programs.



**Congressman John J. Duncan Jr. (R)**

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**John J. Duncan Jr.** was born July 21, 1947 in Lebanon, Tennessee. After being raised in Knoxville and attending the area's public schools, he earned a Bachelor of Journalism degree from the University of Tennessee in 1969. Congressman Duncan then attended the George Washington University National Law Center in Washington, D.C., where he earned a law degree in 1973. In addition to his academic training, Congressman Duncan served in the United States Army National Guard. He enlisted in 1970 and rose to the rank of Captain before completing his service in 1987. In 1973, Congressman

Duncan established a private law practice in Knoxville with Zane Daniel. He was appointed State Trial Judge by Tennessee Governor Lamar Alexander in 1981 and served in that capacity until 1988, when he was elected to Congress. Congressman Duncan currently serves as Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee. He also holds seats on the House Committee on Resources, which retains jurisdiction over national parks and natural resources, and the House Committee on Government Reform. Congressman Duncan's efforts to cut government waste, reduce taxes, and limit bureaucratic red tape have been recognized by various organizations and national news media such as ABC News, CBS News, *The Wall Street Journal*, CNN, and *U.S. News and World Report*. He has been named among the five most fiscally conservative members of Congress by the National Taxpayers Union and is one of the few members of Congress to receive the Citizens Against Government Waste Super Hero Award. In addition to his Washington office, Congressman Duncan maintains offices in Knoxville, Maryville, and Athens. He has established a reputation for providing extensive constituent services and staying in touch with residents of the Second District by attending hundreds of public events and holding countless open-attendance, constituent meetings. Although Congressman Duncan spends more time in East Tennessee than in Washington, he maintains one of the best attendance records in the entire Congress. Congressman Duncan lives in Knoxville and is an Elder at Eastminster Presbyterian Church. He is married to the former Lynn Hawkins of Sewanee, Tennessee. They have four children (Tara, Whitney, John, and Zane) as well as two grandchildren (Beau and Emma).

**Congressman Zach Wamp (R)**  
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 Washington, DC 20515  
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Now in his eleventh year as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman **Zach Wamp**, 47, serves with seniority as Tennessee's only member of the Appropriations Committee, which oversees the thirteen spending accounts of the federal government. Known for his leadership and tenacity, Zach was selected to serve on the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, which funds the Department of Homeland Security's operations, when it was created at the beginning of the 108th Congress. As a member of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, he helps oversee funds for all federal lands including the National Parks, U.S. Forest Service and energy efficiency programs at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). Zach's nine-year experience on the House Appropriations Committee enabled him to write legislation so that Moccasin Bend could enter the National Park System. Congressman Wamp also serves on the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee and funds essential regional priorities such as the Chickamauga Lock in Chattanooga, the Spallation Neutron Source, the Y-12 National Security Complex, ORNL and East Tennessee Technology Corridor. House Speaker Dennis Hastert appointed Zach for his leadership and expertise on energy and homeland security issues to the House Republican Policy Committee where he helped write the House Republicans' energy policy for the 109th Congress. In 2004, Zach was elected by his colleagues to represent the Carolina-Tennessee-Kentucky region on the House Republican Policy Committee. During his Congressional tenure, Zach has served in diverse leadership roles in Congress and around the world - TVA Caucus Chairman, Vice Chair of the Youth Violence Working Group and the Helsinki Commission. An avid athlete, he founded the Congressional Fitness Caucus and helped fund the now widely successful "Tennessee on the Move" campaign with the University of Tennessee that encourages physical activity and habits for a healthier lifestyle. Zach Wamp is well known as one of the most effective communicators in Congress. For three years, he was a regular panelist on "The News Hour with Jim Lehrer" and has appeared on NBC's "Meet the Press," ABC's "Nightline" and MSNBC's "Hardball with Chris Mathews." He has been featured in *Newsweek*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *Time Magazine*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, the *Washington Post* and *The New York Times*. In 2001, Zach hosted the National Prayer Breakfast and introduced President George W. Bush to the 4,000 attendees and to millions of television viewers around the world. A Chattanooga native, Zach spent twelve years as a small businessman and commercial real estate broker before coming to Congress. He and his wife, Kim, have two teenage children and live in Chattanooga where they actively attend Red Bank Baptist Church.

**Congressman Lincoln Davis (D)**  
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 Washington, DC 20515  
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**Lincoln Davis** was elected to represent the Fourth District because he shares the same values of those he represents. He promised to uphold those values in Washington and work in a bipartisan fashion for the betterment of his constituents. Raised in rural Fentress County, Congressman Davis was taught the importance of hard work, helping your neighbors, being trustworthy, and was instilled with a strong sense of principles, which he still holds today. First elected mayor of Byrdstown in 1978, he went on to serve two terms in the Tennessee House of Representatives. His second term in the state Senate was cut short when he was elected to represent the 4th District in Congress. In the state legislature Davis supported pay raises for teachers and state employees, long-term care for senior citizens, character education in schools, and domestic violence legislation. Now in the U.S. House, Davis is working to create economic development opportunities for the district, curb meth abuse, increase flexibility in veterans' benefits, implement homeland security safeguards, and fight for a balanced budget. Family is extremely important to Congressman Davis. He married his high school sweetheart, Lynda, an elementary school teacher, in 1963. Together they raised three daughters: Larissa, Lynn, and Libby. Congressman and Mrs. Davis have five grandchildren: Ashton, Alexia, Andrew, Austin, and Adam. Congressman and Mrs. Davis live in Pall Mall on property his family purchased from Fentress County native, World War I hero, and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Alvin C. York. They attend First Baptist Church in Byrdstown. Congressman Davis earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy from Tennessee Technological University. He serves on the following committees: Transportation and Infrastructure, Science, and Agriculture. He also is a member of the Congressional Blue Dog Coalition, a group of 35 fiscally conservative House Democrats.



**Congressman Jim Cooper (D)**  
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Representing Tennessee's Fifth Congressional District, **Jim Cooper** was born June 19, 1954, in Nashville, Tennessee. He earned a B.A. in history and economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1975 as a Morehead Scholar and serving as co-editor of the *Daily Tar Heel*; a B.A./M.A. in politics and economics as a Rhodes Scholar from Oxford University in 1977; and a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1980. He is married and has three children. From 1980-82, he was an attorney with Waller, Lansden, Dortch, & Davis in Nashville, Tennessee, until he was elected congressman for the Fourth Congressional District, serving from 1983-95. During that time, he served on the Energy & Commerce and Budget Committees and the Small Business Subcommittee. His special legislative focus was on health care, literacy and other rural concerns and he provided leadership roles in major telecommunications, environmental and consumer legislation. From 1995-1999, he was managing director at Equitable Securities, a Nashville-based investment bank. He also was an adjunct professor at Owen School of Management, Vanderbilt University from 1995-2002 where he taught M.B.A. and Executive M.B.A. students health care policy. From 1999-2002, he was founder and partner of Brentwood Capital Advisors LLC, where he sourced and raised funds for growing regional companies and businesses. As Fifth District Congressman, he serves on the Budget and Armed Services Committees.



**Congressman Bart Gordon (D)**  
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**Bart Gordon** currently is serving his 11th term in Congress representing the Sixth District, which includes all or parts of 15 Middle Tennessee counties. He was born in Murfreesboro where his mother, Margaret, was a school teacher and his late father, Robert, was a farmer. Since his election to Congress in 1984, Gordon has held thousands of open meetings and call-ins in the Sixth District. He serves on the powerful Energy and Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over approximately 40 percent of the authorizing legislation that goes to the House floor. He is also the ranking Democrat on the Science Committee, which oversees federal scientific research and development at a number of agencies, including the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Department of Energy, and the National Science Foundation. In 1990, Gordon launched a wide-ranging investigation into problems with the federal student financial aid system and ways to curb abuses in the program. As a result, Congress passed Gordon-authored reforms to the student loan programs, saving taxpayers more than \$6 billion by reducing loan defaults. One of Gordon's highest priorities as a lawmaker is to ensure parents have the tools they need to control materials their children access. Gordon, for example, authored legislation protecting citizens and their children from fraudulent 1-900 telephone numbers and fought to have "V-chip" technology installed in televisions to block objectionable programming. He also sponsored a recent law – the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act – providing grants for states to develop youth suicide prevention and intervention programs. As dean of the state's congressional delegation, Gordon was the first member of Congress to oppose a move to place a temporary nuclear waste dump in Tennessee. He continues to fight proposals that would put nuclear waste in the state. In addition, Gordon remains at the forefront of an effort to prevent the sale of the Southeastern Power Administration (SEPA), including Old Hickory, Center Hill, Cordell Hull, Dale Hollow and Percy Priest lakes. Educated in Rutherford County public schools, Gordon graduated with honors from Middle Tennessee State University in 1971 and received his law degree from the University of Tennessee School of Law in Knoxville. He served in the Army Reserves from 1971-1972 and received an honorable discharge in 1972. Gordon is married to the former Leslie Baker Peyton, and they have one daughter, Peyton.

**Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R)**

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**Marsha Blackburn** was elected to serve Tennessee's seventh Congressional District in 2002. One of only a few newly elected congressmen selected to serve as an assistant whip on the majority whip team, Blackburn was also one of two new members named a "freshman to watch" by *National Journal*. A graduate of Mississippi State University and a small business owner, Blackburn has been actively involved in Tennessee grass-roots politics and civic organizations for more than 25 years. In 1995, Blackburn was appointed executive director of the Tennessee Film, Entertainment, and Music Commission.

Blackburn was elected state senator in 1998, becoming the first woman to represent Tennessee's 23rd senate district. She served as minority whip in the 101st General Assembly and served on the General Welfare, Health and Human Services; Judiciary; and Transportation Committees. While in the state Senate, Blackburn amassed an impressive legislative record. She led the successful fight against imposition of a Tennessee state income tax and gained national attention as an anti-tax crusader. Blackburn sponsored legislation to protect the Second Amendment, keep quality childcare affordable, and began work to eliminate a loophole that had allowed illegal aliens to acquire valid Tennessee driver's licenses. During her first term in Congress, Blackburn served on the Judiciary, Education and the Workforce, and Government Reform Committees. She was vice chairman of the Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Efficiency and Financial Management where she targeted waste, fraud and abuse in federal programs. Blackburn successfully championed the effort to restore the federal sales tax deduction which had failed to pass Congress for nearly 20 years. In 2003, Capitol Hill's *Roll Call* newspaper called her a "rising star" and *National Journal* rated her among the top ten conservatives in the House. At the start of the 109th Congress in 2005, Blackburn was selected by House leadership for a coveted seat on the exclusive Energy and Commerce Committee. Blackburn was born on June 6, 1952. Marsha and Chuck Blackburn have been married for thirty-one years. They have two children, Mary Morgan Ketchel and Chad Blackburn.

**Congressman John S. Tanner (D)**

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**John Tanner** has represented Tennessee's Eighth Congressional District since 1989. He has become a national leader on budget issues, particularly because of his fight to eliminate the national debt and his advocacy for fiscal responsibility. He also plays a prominent role on issues of agriculture, conservation, health care, national security, education, economic development and the protection of Social Security. John Tanner was born at the Dyersburg Army Air Base in Halls, Tennessee, and grew up in Obion County. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and a law degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he also played basketball. Rep. Tanner was honorably discharged from the Navy at the rank of lieutenant. He later retired from the Tennessee Army National Guard at the rank of colonel. Tanner was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1976 and served there until elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1988. He is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee. Congressman Tanner led the formation of a group of moderate to conservative Democrats known as the Blue Dog Coalition. The Blue Dogs joke that they are "yellow-dog Democrats" who have been squeezed so tightly by those on the far left and the far right that they have turned blue. Tanner is vice president of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, the civilian arm of the NATO Alliance. He lives in Union City with his wife, the former Betty Ann Portis of Huntingdon, Tennessee. They have two children, Elizabeth Tanner Atkins and John Portis Tanner, and two grandchildren, Abby Frances Atkins and Tanner Lantrip Atkins. To find out more about Congressman Tanner to contact him by e-mail, visit his Web site, [www.house.gov/tanner](http://www.house.gov/tanner).



**Congressman Harold Ford Jr. (D)**

325 Cannon House Office Building  
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The keynote speaker at the 2000 Democratic National Convention, Harold E. Ford Jr., was elected to the House of Representatives in 1996 at age 26, re-elected in 1998 with nearly 80 percent of the vote, and again in 2000 with no opposition to represent the Ninth Congressional District. Ford represents a new generation of political leaders who seek to replace the partisan politics of the past with fresh ideas and a pragmatic approach to the challenges of the twenty-first century. One of the youngest members of Congress at age 32, Ford's main priority in Congress is improving education. He has pursued these goals as a member of the House Education and Workforce Committee and has authored the "Make College Affordable Act" to help working families meet the rising costs of higher education. Ford also worked to pass the fiscal year 2000 budget agreement that provided \$1.3 billion to reduce class sizes by helping communities hire 100,000 qualified new teachers. Congressman Ford is a member of the House Budget Committee and the House Committee on Financial Services. Since joining Congress, Ford has joined and worked closely with several progressive, pro-growth coalitions, including the New Democrat Coalition, the Congressional Black Caucus and the Blue Dog Coalition. Prior to his election to Congress, Ford worked under the leadership of the late U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown as a special assistant to the Economic Development Administration in 1993. He also served as a special assistant to the Justice/Civil Rights Cluster in the 1992 Clinton/Gore Transition Team, and as an aide to the Senate Budget Committee under former U.S. Senator James Sasser. Congressman Ford coordinated his father's re-election campaigns in 1992 and 1994. He received his law degree from the University of Michigan School of Law in 1996 and his bachelor's degree in American History from the University of Pennsylvania in 1992. Born in Memphis, Tennessee on May 11, 1970, Congressman Ford is the eldest son of former U.S. Representative Harold E. Ford and Dorothy Ford of Memphis. He has two brothers, Jake and Isaac Ford.