



SECTION V



Tennesseans in National Government



INTRODUCTION

Throughout the state's rich political heritage, Tennesseans have played important roles in shaping the character of our nation's government. Three presidents — Jackson, Polk, and Johnson have called Tennessee home. Many other elected and non-elected offices have been held by Tennesseans as well. Albert Gore Jr. served as vice president; former Senator Howard Baker served as Republican leader of the U.S. Senate and White House chief of staff under President Ronald Reagan; current Senator Lamar Alexander served as secretary of education under President George H. W. Bush; former Senator Bill Frist served as majority leader of the U.S. Senate; Cordell Hull served as secretary of state under Franklin Roosevelt; Jo Byrns served as speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and there have been many others.

Today, Tennesseans remain influential in all levels of the federal government. This has proven to be an asset for the people of the state, as the federal government has assumed an increasing role in the many facets of state government. Over one-third of the state's annual budget is derived through federal programs. Individually, many Tennesseans are employed by the U.S. Government. Others rely on benefits received through the Social Security System, the Veterans Administration, and numerous other federal programs.

The value of having fellow Tennesseans in national government is important to Tennessee both as a state and individually.

Members of Congress also carry out a vital role for Tennesseans in the federal government. Members of Congress are not only responsible for making federal law and overseeing the administration of the U.S. Government, but they are heavily involved in assisting citizens in dealing with federal agencies as well. Much time is spent by the members and their staffs in handling constituents' requests.

The congressional delegation also is vital to the generation of the state government. Since in many areas federal law determines the way in which state government must operate, the interactions between state officials and members of the Congress are essential in providing the most effective and economical government services possible.

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

Lamar Alexander (R)

Dirksen Senate Office Building

Room 455

Washington, DC 20510

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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 chairs the Senate Republican Conference and serves on committees overseeing education, clean air, highways, science, appropriations and the Tennessee Valley Authority. He is the only Tennessean ever popularly elected both governor and U.S. Senator. Sen.

Alexander has been U.S. Education Secretary, University of Tennessee president, and professor at Harvard's School of Government. He chaired the National Governors' Association and President Reagan's Commission on Americans Outdoors. In private life, he helped found 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 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 and Honey Buhler were married in 1969. They have four children and two grandchildren. He is a Presbyterian elder.

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.

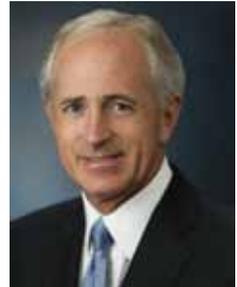
With only 100 members, the Senate can afford to be more relaxed in conducting its legislative business. Also, because each senator is an “ambassador” from a sovereign state, he is afforded more deference and indulgence than any individual House member. The concept of “senatorial courtesy” allows each 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

Bob Corker (R)

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(202) 224-3344



Bob Corker grew up in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He attended public schools, played sports, and from an early age learned to love and value hard work. He took his first job at age 13 picking up trash and spent his teenage years bagging ice, working at the Western Auto and putting in long hours as a construction laborer. Bob graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1974 with a degree in Industrial Management, and after working four years as a construction superintendent, he started his own construction company with \$8,000. The company grew as it quickly gained a reputation for meeting deadlines on time and under budget and eventually expanded to operations in 18 states. Over time, Bob’s business interests evolved to acquiring and developing commercial real estate. After traveling with his church on a mission trip to Haiti in his late twenties, Bob began to take a closer look at needs in his own community. He led the creation of Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise, a non-profit organization that today has helped over 10,000 families secure decent, fit and affordable housing through low-interest loans and personal training in home maintenance. In 1994, Bob was appointed Tennessee Commissioner of Finance and Administration, where he served for two years in the highest appointed office in state government. As commissioner, he tightened the state’s budget and helped move almost 40,000 Tennesseans off welfare and into jobs. In 2001, Bob was elected mayor of Chattanooga. He transformed Chattanooga’s waterfront – attracting \$2.1 billion of investment to revitalize the city – implemented merit bonus pay for teachers which dramatically raised student achievement in some of the city’s most challenged schools, and worked with local law enforcement officials to cut violent crime in half. On November 7, 2006, Bob was elected to serve the people of Tennessee in the United States Senate. He is a member of the Senate Committees on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Energy and Natural Resources; and Foreign Relations; and the Special Committee on Aging. Bob and his wife, Elizabeth, have been married for over 20 years and have two daughters, Julia and Emily. The Corker family lives in Chattanooga.

United States House of Representatives

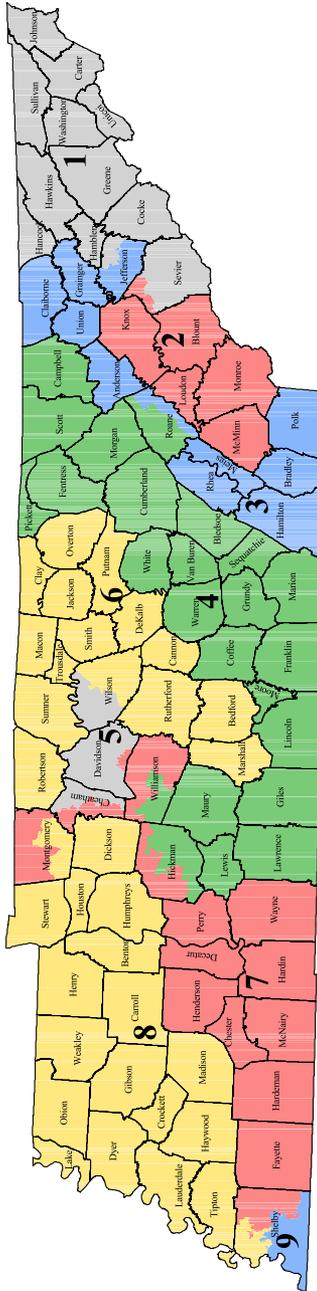
The U.S. House of Representatives is popularly elected every two years. Members must be 25 years old and must have been a citizen for at least seven years. The Constitution of the United States does not provide for the exact number of representatives; rather it leaves the matter up to Congress to determine. 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*



- 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 in part, Union
- 4th – Bledsoe, Campbell, Coffee, Cumberland, Fentress, Franklin, Giles, Grundy, Hickman in part, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Marion, Maury, Moore, Morgan, Pickett, Roane in part, Scott, Sequatchie, Van Buren, Warren, White, 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, Sumner, Trousdale, Wilson in part
- 7th – Cheatham in part, Chester, Davidson in part, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Henderson, Hickman in part, McNairy, Montgomery in part, 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

*Map shows approximate areas served.



Congressman Phil Roe (R)
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Congressman **Phil Roe** represents the First Congressional District of Tennessee, which includes Carter, Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, Washington, Jefferson and Sevier Counties. A resident of Johnson City serving his first term in Congress, Phil has a strong work ethic that is committed to working on behalf of the First District, Tennessee and our nation. A native of Tennessee, Phil was born on July 21, 1945 in Clarksville. He earned a degree in Biology with

a minor in Chemistry from Austin Peay State University in 1967 and went on and to earn his Medical Degree from the University of Tennessee in 1970. Upon graduation, he served two years in the United States Army Medical Corps. Congressman Roe serves on three Committees that allow him to address and influence the many issues that are important to the First District farmers, students, teachers, veterans and workers: Agriculture (serving on the Livestock and Horticulture Subcommittee; and the Rural Development, Biotechnology, Specialty Crops and Foreign Agriculture Subcommittee), Veteran Affairs (serving as the Ranking Member on the Oversight and Investigation Subcommittee) and Education and Labor (serving on Higher Education, Life Long Learning and Competitiveness Subcommittee, Health Employment, Labor and Pensions Subcommittee and serving on Healthy Families and Communities Subcommittee). While these committees put the First Congressional District in a position to be at the forefront of many debates, Congressman Roe has been an active voice on taxes, government spending, energy, transportation and protecting our values. As a physician, Congressman Roe has become an active player in the effort to reform our nation's health care system. He is a member of the Physicians' Caucus and the Health Caucus. Prior to serving in Congress, Phil served as the Mayor of Johnson City from 2007 to 2009 and Vice Mayor from 2003 to 2007. As a physician, Phil ran a successful medical practice in Johnson City for 31 years, delivering close to 5,000 babies. Phil and his wife Pam have three children: David C. Roe, 36, John Roe, 32, and Whitney Larkin, 24. They are proud to have two grandchildren. Phil and Pam are members of Munsey United Methodist Church.



Congressman John J. Duncan, Jr. (R)
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 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-5435

United States Congressman **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 Ranking Member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Highways and Transit Subcommittee. He also holds seats on the House Committee on Natural Resources, which retains jurisdiction over national parks and natural resources, and the House Committee on Oversight and 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 five grandchildren.

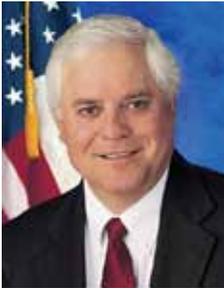
Congressman Zach Wamp (R)
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Zach Wamp is a common-sense conservative who promotes practical ideas to solve our nation's complex challenges. His energy and dogged determination have established him as a leader on issues like alternative energy, preventive health care and global security. He was an early promoter of an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy to create new jobs and he leads by example in focusing on physical activity and wellness. To bring the region together around our shared science, technology, business and education assets, Zach was instrumental in the formation and success of the Tennessee Valley Technology Corridor, helping create the jobs of the future. What started in 1995 as a regional economic summit has grown into a national award-winning economic development organization focused on high-tech research, development, manufacturing and investment in the Tennessee Valley Corridor. This partnership is paying major dividends in the way of thousands of new, quality jobs for Tennesseans. A few of Zach's legislative accomplishments include:

- *Combating methamphetamine production in Tennessee.* Zach helped establish and provide the resources for the nation's premier statewide task force to rid our communities of illegal drugs and passed bipartisan legislation to protect innocent children taken from meth homes.
- *Expanding the Trail of Tears.* His Trail of Tears Documentation Act was signed into law to include additional sites and trails that double the current trail. Rewriting the National Trail of Tears legislation to more accurately tell the story of one of the seminal injustices in history was important to Zach because of his own Cherokee heritage.
- *Keeping the aging Chickamauga Lock open and operational.* As a major thoroughfare for commerce in the South, the Chickamauga Lock continues to be a top priority for Zach, who has fought for the necessary funding for repairs and resources for the planning and construction of the replacement lock.
- *Preserving Moccasin Bend.* Zach authored a bill leading to the establishment of the Moccasin Bend National Archeological District as part of the National Park Service. This designation will protect a unique array of prehistoric sites that date back to the earliest human cultures, creating a living memorial to the area's rich heritage.
- *Advancing the region's science leadership.* The Spallation Neutron Source in Oak Ridge is a world-renowned research facility that allows scientist to improve our medicine, food, electronics, cars and airplanes by better understanding the structure of materials. From the beginning of this project, Zach helped provide the necessary resources for the project to be constructed on time and under-budget.
- *Providing energy tax incentives.* Zach shepherded landmark tax incentives into law that help individuals make their homes and businesses more energy-efficient, lowering their electricity bills and cutting our nation's energy demand.
- *Improving education.* Zach co-authored the FIT Kids Act to incentivize physical education in public schools, leading to improved test scores and higher productivity for students in public education.
- *Naming Emancipation Hall.* To honor the slaves that helped build the U.S. Capitol and the process of emancipation, which freed all Americans from the injustice of slavery, Zach wrote the bill to name the largest room in the Capitol "Emancipation Hall."

He has appeared on virtually every national media outlet and has been featured in a number of national publications effectively articulating sound social and economic policy. A Chattanooga native, Zach spent twelve years as a small businessman and commercial real estate broker before being elected to Congress. He and his wife, Kim, actively attend Red Bank Baptist Church and have two children: Weston, a University of Tennessee graduate, and Coty, a student at UT.



Congressman Lincoln Davis (D)

410 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
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Lincoln Davis has proudly served Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District since January 7, 2003. Congressman Davis came to Congress with the promise to work beyond party lines and find practical solutions to improve the lives of Tennesseans, saying, "I will take positions because they are right for the people of Tennessee's Fourth District, not because they are right for Democrats or Republicans alone." First elected Mayor of Byrdstown in 1978, Davis went on to serve in both the Tennessee House of Representatives and the Tennessee State Senate. In the state legislature, Davis fought for long-term care for senior citizens, character education in schools and tough

domestic violence legislation. Today, Davis continues to work for Tennesseans by fighting for legislation that will create opportunities for economic development, curb methamphetamine abuse, improve veterans' benefits, strengthen homeland security and fight for a balanced budget that will better serve the workers and families of the Fourth District. Davis serves on the House Appropriations Committee and House Science Committee. The owner of his own company, Diversified Construction, Lincoln Davis understands the needs of small business owners in Tennessee. In addition to building homes and bridges throughout rural Tennessee, Davis met payroll and faced the challenges that all Tennessee small businesses face. Congressman Davis is also a member of the Congressional Blue Dog Coalition, a group of 51 fiscally conservative House Democrats whose goal is to balance the budget each year. As a member of the Blue Dog's Majority Whip team, Davis plays a key role in developing strategies to foster bipartisan solutions for writing legislation that makes government work better for Tennessee and the Nation. Away from his work as a public servant, Davis has always dedicated himself to family. He married his high school sweetheart Lynda, an elementary school teacher, in 1963. Together, Congressman and Mrs. Davis raised three daughters and are the lucky grandparents of five. Congressman and Mrs. Davis live in Pall Mall, Tennessee, on property his family purchased from Fentress County native, World War I hero, and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Alvin C. York. They are members of First Baptist Church in Byrdstown.



Congressman Jim Cooper (D)

1536 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-4311

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 played leadership roles in major telecommunications, environmental and consumer legislation. From 1995-1999, he was managing director at Equitable Securities, a Nashville-based investment bank. 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. Cooper was elected to his second stint in Congress in 2002, serving a more urban and suburban constituency in Nashville, Mt. Juliet, Lebanon, Ashland City, Pleasant View, and Pegram. As Fifth District Congressman, he serves on the Armed Services, and Oversight and Government Reform Committees. In 2007, he was named chairman of the Armed Services Committee's Roles and Missions Panel. He continues to teach as an adjunct professor at the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University, where he has taught a course on health care policy for twelve years.

Congressman Bart Gordon (D)
2306 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-4231



As the dean of Tennessee's congressional delegation, **Bart Gordon** is serving his 13th term in Congress, representing the Sixth District, which includes 15 counties. Since 2007, Bart has served as the Chairman of the House Science and Technology Committee. As Chairman, Bart authored the bipartisan America COMPETES Act, which aimed to foster U.S. economic competitiveness by strengthening math and science education. The COMPETES Act, which was signed into law in August 2007, has helped to improve science and math education with the goal of ensuring the U.S. workforce has the skills needed for high-tech jobs of the future. In addition, the COMPETES Act also focused on curbing America's dependence on foreign energy sources. The law created an Advanced Research Projects Agency for Energy (ARPA-E) in the U.S. Department of Energy, which is tasked with leveraging talent in all sectors – from private industry, to universities, to government labs – to develop next-generation energy sources and technologies. Bart continues to focus the attention of the Science and Technology Committee on finding bipartisan solutions to improving education, developing advanced technologies, and ensuring the United States continues to lead the world in scientific advances.

In addition to his role on the Science and Technology Committee, Bart is a senior member of the powerful House Energy and Commerce Committee and serves on three subcommittees – Health, Telecommunications and the Internet, and Trade and Consumer Protection. As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Bart has authored several bills that have been signed into law. Bart authored a 1992 and 1996 law to protect citizens from fraudulent 1-900 and 1-800 phone numbers. In 2004, his youth suicide prevention measure, the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act, established a grant program to help bolster suicide intervention and prevention programs. In addition to these laws and others, Bart wrote a 2008 law that has improved access to 9-1-1 emergency services.

Recently, Bart introduced legislation to ban the importation and disposal of low-level radioactive waste in the United States. This bill is aimed at preventing the U.S. from becoming the world's disposal site for foreign-generated radioactive waste. In addition to this, Bart was the first member of Tennessee's delegation to oppose a temporary site in the state for disposal of the nation's nuclear waste. He has stood up to four presidents who wanted to place a nuclear waste storage site in Tennessee and continues the fight today.

Educated in Rutherford County public schools, Bart graduated with honors from Middle Tennessee State University in 1971. He served in the Army Reserves from 1971-1972 and received an honorable discharge in 1972. Bart received his law degree from the University of Tennessee. He is married to Leslie Peyton Gordon, and they have a daughter, Peyton Margaret Gordon.



Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R)

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Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2811

Marsha Blackburn is an established, conservative, results-oriented legislator who solves problems. She was sent to the U.S. House of Representatives at the start of the 108th Congress as the first female in Tennessee elected in her own right to the U.S. House. Blackburn was elected State Senator in 1998, becoming the first woman to represent Tennessee's 23rd Senate District. While in the Tennessee Senate, Blackburn led a statewide grassroots campaign to defeat the proposed state income tax. Her frequent appearances on talk radio and positive mention in national publications like the *Wall Street Journal* made her a recognized national anti-tax and government

reform advocate. She quickly earned a reputation for keeping her legislative focus on defending and expanding individual freedom and free enterprise. Blackburn willingly accepts the responsibility of helping shape American fiscal policy as a member of the exclusive House Energy and Commerce Committee. On Energy and Commerce, Blackburn is the only Tennessean on the Health Subcommittee, which is charged with reforming the nation's health care system. Representing both a portion of metropolitan Nashville and the suburbs of Memphis, Blackburn has strong ties with some of the nation's premier songwriters and performers. In 2003, Blackburn founded the Congressional Songwriters Caucus to give the nation's creative community access to Capitol Hill. The caucus focuses on the protection of intellectual property and tax policy. Blackburn was selected to serve as an Assistant Majority Whip in the 108th Congress and an Assistant Minority Whip for the 109th, 110th and 111th Congresses. Blackburn is a graduate of Mississippi State University, a small business owner, and native of Laurel, Mississippi. She was born on June 6, 1952. Marsha and Chuck Blackburn have been married for thirty-five years. They have two children, Mary Morgan Ketchel and Chad Blackburn, and two grandchildren.



Congressman John S. Tanner (D)

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Congressman **John Tanner** has represented Tennessee's Eighth District in West and Middle Tennessee since 1989. He serves on the House Ways and Means Committee, where he chairs the Social Security Subcommittee, and on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Tanner chairs the U.S. delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and was elected by legislators from all NATO-member nations to serve as the assembly's President in 2009 and 2010. Tanner helped found a group of moderate to conservative Democrats known as the Blue Dog Coalition, seen as a leading force on fiscal responsibility.

Born at the Dyersburg Army Air Base in Halls, Tennessee, Tanner 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. Congressman Tanner 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 four grandchildren, Abby Frances Atkins, Tanner Lantrip Atkins, Beck Counce Tanner and Edith Dorothy Tanner. He and his brothers own an insurance business and farming interests in Tennessee.

Congressman Stephen Ira Cohen (D)
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Representing the Ninth Congressional District, **Stephen Ira “Steve” Cohen**, a native Memphian, was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives November 7, 2006 and is currently serving his second term. A member of the House Judiciary Committee, he serves on the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security. At the start of his second term, Cohen was chosen as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law. Congressman Cohen is a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, serving on both the Subcommittees on Aviation, and Highways and Transit. Cohen was also elected to a leadership position as a Regional Whip. Upon becoming a member of Congress, Steve Cohen immediately distinguished himself as a passionate, progressive and forthright voice, receiving national media recognition from *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *NBC Evening News*, *CNN*, *Air America*, and *The Daily Show* among many others for his strong stance against continuing the Iraq War, and as a proponent of an increased minimum wage, stem cell research, universal health care, increased funding of the COPS program and energy innovations and independence. During his first term, he sponsored H.Res. 194 which was the first official apology for slavery and Jim Crow laws passed by the House of Representatives. On a lighter note, Congressman Cohen was a featured guest on *The Colbert Report’s* Better Know a District on *Comedy Central*. Cohen is a member of both the Progressive and Out of Iraq Caucuses. Elected to the Tennessee State Senate in 1982, Steve Cohen represented the 30th Senatorial District for over twenty-four years. Prior to his state Senate service, Cohen served as the legal advisor to the Memphis Police Department from 1976-1978, as vice president of 1977 Tennessee Constitutional Convention, as Shelby County Commissioner from 1978-1980, and as interim Shelby County General Sessions Court Judge in 1980. As a state Senator, Cohen served as chair of the State and Local Government Committee from 1991 through 2006. Known as the father of the Tennessee Lottery for his nearly two-decade fight to send a referendum on Tennessee’s constitutional prohibition on lotteries to the people, Cohen subsequently passed legislation to implement the Lottery Corporation and to establish the Lottery scholarship program, the prime beneficiary of Lottery proceeds. Other primary legislative priorities included First Amendment issues, animal welfare, the arts, ethics, felon voting rights, graduated driver licenses, the environment, and women’s and non-discrimination issues, issues which Congressman Cohen continues to champion in the U.S. House. Cohen served on the National Conference of State Legislatures Executive Committee from 1998 to 2005, the Council of State Governments Executive Committee in 2002 and as a delegate to the 1980, 1992, 2004 and 2008 Democratic National Conventions. He served on the Platform Committee of the Democratic National Convention in 2000. As a state Senator, Cohen passed legislation creating the Tennessee Holocaust Commemoration Commission and served as an ex officio member of the Commission from 1984 through 2006. Cohen is a lifetime member of the NAACP and has been a member of Circuit Playhouse, Inc. Board of Directors from 1977 to the present. Cohen has served on the Memphis/Shelby County Center City Commission, the Memphis College of Art Board of Trustees, and the Memphis Zoological Council. Cohen was named to *Business Tennessee* magazine “Power 100” in 2004 and again in 2007. Featured several times in the *Memphis Magazine* top movers and shakers issues, in 2007 Cohen appeared on the issue’s cover. Other honors include: 2009 110 Institute’s Man of the Year; 2008 The Vida Foundation’s D. Emelio Castelar Work Recognition Award (International Humanitarian Award presented in Madrid, Spain); *Memphis Flyer* “Best of Memphis” Reader’s Poll: Best Memphian; Selected as one of the *Forward 50* by The Forward, America’s largest Jewish newspaper, recognizing the most influential Jewish Americans of the year; 13th Annual Stone Awards Recipient: *Most Outstanding Politician*; Tennessee Communication Association’s *Communicator of the Year*; Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) Award of Excellence for Public Service; Tennessee Principals Association “Friend of Education Award;” Alpha Kappa Alpha Beta Epsilon Omega Chapter AKAward For Outstanding Public Service in the Area of the Economic Keys to Success; Honorary Degree from LeMoyné-Owen College; 2007 Planned Parenthood “Bob James Award”, Memphis Gridiron Show Headliner Award – Mid-South Newsmaker of the Year, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) Region IV Political Award, *Business Tennessee* 2007 Power 100; Top 100 Most Powerful People in Tennessee, U.S. Humane Society 2007 Humane Champion Award; 2006 Tennessee Humane Association Legislative Achievement Award; 2004 Shelby County Democratic Party William W. (Bill) Farris Political Leadership Award; The University of Memphis 2004 Walter A. Barret Distinguished Service Award; 2004 University of Memphis Eye of the Tiger Award; 2003 Boys & Girls Club Legislator of the Year; 2002 Tennessee Human Rights Campaign Public Leadership Award; 2001 Governor’s Awards in the Arts Leadership Award; 2000 Tennessee Holocaust Commission Commendation; 2000 AutoZone Park Opening Day First Pitch; 2000 AAA Legislator of the Year Award; 1999 Tennessee Academy of Pediatrics Friend of Children Award; 1998 Memphis Arts Council Memphis Theatre Award; 1997 and 1992 Common Cause of Tennessee Bird Dog Award; 1996 Memphis Flyer Best Local Politician; 1996 University of Tennessee Memphis Faculty Senate Presidential Citation; 1995 Lorin Hollander Award, Tennessee Arts Academy; 1995 Memphis Women’s Political Caucus Good Guys Award; 1994 Unitarian Fellowship Dr. Peter Cooper Award; 1992 Tennesseans for the Arts Advocate Award; 1992 Tennessee Bill of Rights Award; 1991 Community Mental Retardation Agencies of Tennessee Legislator of the Year; 1991 Keeping the Blues Alive Award, Blues Foundation; 1988 Save Shelby Farms Forest Award; and 1987 Memphis Arts Council Commendation. Congressman Cohen earned a B.A. from Vanderbilt University and a J.D. from The University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. From 1978 until his election to Congress, Cohen had a private law practice in Memphis. Born in May 24, 1949 in Memphis, Steve Cohen is the son of Genevieve Cohen and the late Dr. Morris Cohen. To find out more about Congressman Cohen, visit his Web site at cohen.house.gov