

- Which policy regarding U.S. involvement in Iraq do you support?**
 - An immediate withdrawal.
 - A one year time table for withdrawal with benchmarks.
 - Stay the course until the President says the job is done.
 - Not sure.
- Do you support the right to bear arms?**
 - Yes
 - No, I favor stronger gun control laws.
 - Not sure.
- Should the government pass and help pay for universal health insurance so that all Americans have access to health care?**
 - Yes
 - No
 - Not sure.
- Which of the following best describes your thoughts on global warming?**
 - Global warming is a significant threat and the government must act to protect the environment.
 - Global warming is a significant threat but there is time to fix this problem later.
 - Global warming is not a top concern.
- Should the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) have the authority to enforce federal marijuana laws against individuals who are using marijuana for medical purposes in states which have legalized medical marijuana?**
 - Yes
 - No
 - Not sure.
- How do you feel about stem cell research?**
 - It provides hope for medical breakthroughs and should be expanded.
 - It should be limited to what is currently permitted.
 - Government should not allow it.
- Which best describes your views on a woman's right to reproductive choice?**
 - It is a personal choice and government should not interfere.
 - It should be legal, but with some limits and parental consent.
 - It should be illegal under any circumstance.
 - Not sure.
- Which area is most important for federal funding in Tennessee's 9th District?**
 - Law Enforcement /Crime Prevention
 - Housing and Urban Development
 - Federal Aid to Public Schools
 - Public Transportation
 - Hospitals and Health Services
 - Infrastructure, Earthquake Preparedness and Water Quality
 - Providing for our national defense and homeland security
 - Balancing the budget and reducing the federal deficit

To respond to this survey, please visit cohen.house.gov
Or you may return this form in an envelope to:

Congressman Steve Cohen
167 North Main Street, Suite 369
Memphis, TN 38103

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

*Email Address _____

If at any time you would like to subscribe to receive email updates, please visit cohen.house.gov

Congressman Steve Cohen Guide To Constituent Services

Services Available Through My Memphis Office

Contact my district office to get advice or assistance regarding:

- Social Security and Medicare Benefits
- Veterans' Benefits and Military Service Issues
- Small Business Administration Loans and Services
- FHA, VA Home Loans
- Civil Rights Complaints (EEOC)
- Federal Grants
- Workers' Compensation Claims
- Civil Service Pensions and Benefits
- Railroad Retirement Benefits
- Passports
- IRS Problems
- White House Tours (requires two months notice)
- Congressional Tours
- Purchase of flags flown over the U.S. Capitol

Seniors

We can ask the U.S. Treasury to replace lost Social Security checks, inquire on your behalf regarding Medicare reimbursement disputes and check the status of appeals of unfavorable decisions regarding retirement, disability or survivor benefits. Please contact my office if your problem has not been resolved to your satisfaction.

Veterans

We can investigate and advocate for you regarding denied veterans' benefits such as pensions and medical care.

Student Information

My office can provide information on federal student loan programs such as Pell Grants,

Stafford Loans, PLUS Loans, Federal Work Study, Perkins Loans, and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants.

Information is also available on the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program, which includes the Tennessee HOPE Scholarship, the Aspire Award, the Tennessee HOPE Access Grant, the General Assembly Merit Scholarship, and the Wilder-Naifeh Technical Skills Grant programs.

Service Academy Nominations

Each year, I recommend high school graduates for admission to the United States service academies (Army, Navy, Air Force, and Merchant Marines). Applicants must live in Tennessee's 9th Congressional District and be between the ages of 17 and 23. The nominations are made on a non-political, competitive basis. We suggest you begin the application process in your junior year.

Non-Profit Organizations & Municipalities

Please visit my office or my web site (cohen.house.gov) for information about opportunities to receive federal grants and federal loans.

Contact Me

167 North Main Street, Suite 369
Memphis, TN 38103
Telephone: (901) 544-4131
Fax: (901) 544-4329

WEBSITE: COHEN.HOUSE.GOV

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

U.S. House of Representatives
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4209
PUBLIC DOCUMENT
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



M.C.

Presorted Standard



SPRING 2007

CONGRESSMAN
STEVE COHEN

- Welcome
- Legislative Update
- Federal Issues Survey
- Guide to Constituent Services
- Contact Me



Welcome to the 110th Congress

Dear Constituent:

It is truly an honor serving as your representative in Congress. Attending to legislative business on your behalf is paramount and I'm pleased to report that I have not missed a single floor vote. The first four months in this session of Congress have passed, and much has been done to right the course of our nation.

Concerned citizens throughout the 9th District of Tennessee have weighed in, asking Congress to raise the minimum wage, to make college more affordable, to implement the recommendations of the 9/11 commission, to negotiate for lower drug prices in Medicare Part D, to cure disease through stem cell research, to fight crime via additional funds for the COPS program, and to reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil. I was proud to vote for all of these important measures and continue to ask for your input in all legislative decisions affecting our District.

The U.S. occupation of Iraq remains a divisive issue in this session of Congress. When I asked to hear from citizens of the 9th District before voting on the Iraq War Supplemental (H.R.1591), the response was overwhelming. Over 500 phone calls, faxes, emails, and visits to the District and Capitol offices in less than 48 hours, in addition to the views previously expressed by constituents, made your thoughts and feelings clear and helped in forming a decision that best served our district and our country: support our troops, bring them home from Iraq, and take care of our veterans. The Iraq War Supplemental accomplishes all of these objectives.

As a member of the House Committee on the Judiciary, I have participated in hearings on many issues important to the 9th District, including Meth enforcement and treatment, deceptive practices and voter intimidation, voting rights, animal fighting, consumer issues, and the compensation disparity between executives and workers in bankruptcy cases. Judiciary Committee Chairman John Conyers, a colleague and friend, attended the 9th District Town Hall meeting in Memphis on February 22; the two of us fielded many questions on a variety of issues at the first of a series of community meetings designed to hear your concerns.

It was also my pleasure to welcome fellow Out of Iraq Caucus member Congresswoman Maxine Waters to the 9th District when she was recognized by the April 4th Foundation and spoke at its annual dinner honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s work.

A true representative democracy exists when citizens communicate with their government representatives. My office can always be contacted via email, phone, and fax; one of my highest priorities throughout the 110th Congress is staying in direct contact with you. As you read the rest of this brochure, please note the services the 9th District offices are able to provide to you, both from Memphis and from Washington.



Congressman Cohen and House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers field questions from District 9 constituents during the February Town Hall Meeting at the National Civil Rights Museum.

Most sincerely,

Steve Cohen

To receive periodic email updates on Congressional activity, please visit cohen.house.gov

CONGRESSMAN STEVE COHEN

Legislative Update

In addition to appointing me to serve on the Judiciary Committee, Speaker Pelosi honored my request for appointment to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, which has jurisdiction over airports, highways, waterways, and railroads as well as issues concerning infrastructure management. As America's distribution center, the 9th District is best served by its representative serving on the Transportation Committee. Aviation is particularly important to the 9th District, which is home to FedEx (one of the world's largest cargo airlines), a major passenger hub for Northwest Airlines, and the base for Pinnacle Airlines, making Memphis one of the nation's premier air transportation centers. In addition to providing essential commercial links to the rest of the world, the aviation industry employs around 35,000 people in the 9th District.

I am currently seeking authorization funding for highway and infrastructure investment projects of importance to the city of Memphis. In the opening months of the 110th Congress, the committee has reported two important pieces of infrastructural development legislation:

H.R. 1195: Amends the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act to make corrections to the surface transportation program, which includes earmarks for highway safety and mass transit projects. Passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on March 26.

H.R. 1495: The Water Resources Development Act of 2007, authorizes Army Corps of Engineers water resources development and conservation projects, including flood control, environmental restoration, shoreline protection, and inland navigation projects. The legislation also provides for construction of navigation improvements, ecosystem restoration projects, and ecosystem restoration preconstruction and design for projects along the Mississippi River.

Before the end of the year, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will also consider legislation to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration as well as measures to reauthorize mass transit and highway safety programs.

Sponsored Legislation

H.R.753: To redesignate the Federal building located at 167 North Main Street in Memphis, Tennessee, as the "Clifford Davis and Odell Horton Federal Building." I was pleased that Senator Lamar Alexander agreed to sponsor the legislation in the Senate. Judge Horton was the first African-American federal district judge in Tennessee, and it is fitting that the building which houses the federal district court in Memphis bears his name. (Passed in the U.S. House on 03/26/2007 and the U.S. Senate on 04/10/07.)

H.RES.154: Recognizing Stax Records for enriching the Nation's cultural life with "50 Years of Soul." (Introduced in Feb. 2007 with additional co-sponsors being added.)

H.RES.162: Recognizing the contributions of the Negro Baseball Leagues and their players. (Passed in the U.S. House on 03/06/2007.)

H.RES.194: Apologizing for the enslavement and racial segregation of African-Americans. (Introduced in Feb. 2007 and has more than 50 co-sponsors thus far.)

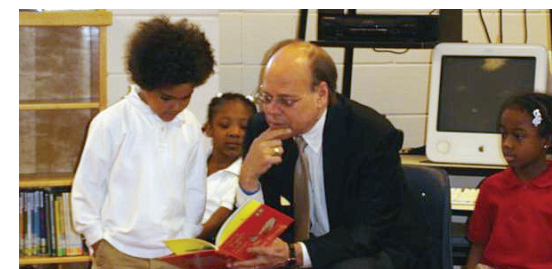
H.AMDT.62 to H.R.1401: Based on concerns from government officials in Memphis, I introduced an amendment to the Rail and Public Transportation Security Act of 2007 to coordinate with state and local governments to establish a program within the Department of Transportation to minimize the transport of Toxic Inhalation Hazardous (TIH) Materials. (Agreed to in the U.S. House on 03/27/2007.)

Planned Legislation

- A bill to make it a federal crime to transport the corpse of a homicide victim across state lines to hide evidence of the homicide. The sentence received by the murderer of Memphis codes enforcement officer Mickey Wright does not provide justice. Under this legislation, Mr. Wright's killer could have been sentenced to a minimum of 25 years in prison.
- Legislation to provide funding to cities, counties, and states to train and pay the first year's salaries of veterans of Iraq and/or Afghanistan who take jobs as First Responders such as Law Enforcement, Firefighters, or EMTs. This would allow veterans to use skills they have acquired via military service.
- Legislation to permit The MED (Memphis Regional Medical Center) to participate in other states' Medicaid financing mechanisms.

Legislative Update

- The PET (Protect Every True friend) Act would make manufacturers of defective products liable for non-economic damages resulting from the death of a pet cat or dog caused by the defective product.
- Canned Hunting Ban prohibits transport, transfer, or possession of a confined exotic animal for the purposes of killing or injuring the animal for entertainment or for collection of a trophy. The bill punishes an offender with a fine and up to a year in prison.
- Letter supporting inclusion of the Mississippi River Trail in the Administration's 2016 Centennial National Park Service program.



Congressman Cohen discusses the importance of reading with children at the Memphis Downtown Elementary School as a part of the National Education Association's (NEA) Read Across America.

Co-Sponsored Legislation

IRAQ

H.R.508 - Requiring U.S. military disengagement from Iraq.

H.R.746 - Providing for the safe and orderly withdrawal of U.S. military forces and Department of Defense contractors from Iraq.

H.R.960 - Setting a deliberate timetable for the redeployment of U.S. Armed Forces from Iraq by December 31, 2007.

HEALTH CARE

H.R.676 - Providing for comprehensive health insurance coverage for all U.S. residents.

H.R.819 - Expanding access to preventive health care services that help reduce unintended pregnancy, reduce abortions, and improve access to women's health care.

H.R.1536 - Amending the Social Security Act to assist low-income individuals in obtaining subsidized prescription drug coverage under the Medicare prescription drug program.

H.R.1542 - Providing for paid sick leave to ensure that Americans can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families.

CRIME

H.R.460 - Amending the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to equitably treat crack cocaine's criminal sentencing in the same fashion as criminal sentencing for other forms of cocaine.

H.R.623 - Permitting the expungement of records of certain nonviolent criminal offenses, permitting a second chance for nonviolent offenders.

H.R.933 - Establishing a short term State witness protection program to protect their witnesses in cases involving homicide, serious violent felonies, and serious drug offenses.

SMALL BUSINESS

- Lead co-sponsor of House companion to S. 98, the Minority Entrepreneurship Development Act. This legislation would create an Office of Minority Small Business Development at the Small Business Administration to increase lending and contracting opportunities for minority small businesses. The bill also establishes a grant program at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and at Hispanic Serving Institutions to steer students toward entrepreneurship as a career option.

Contact Me
Telephone: (901) 544-4131