

★ CURRENT MEMBERS ★

*Danny K. Davis*

1941–

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE  
DEMOCRAT FROM ILLINOIS

1997–

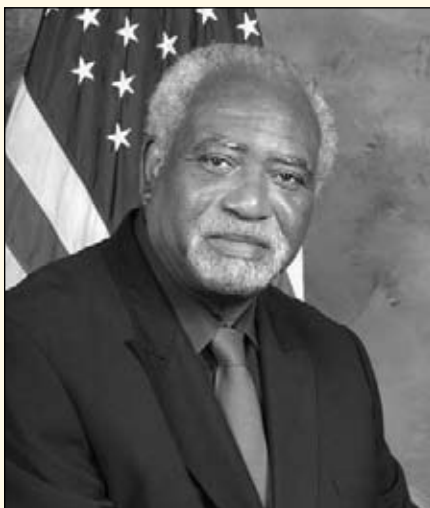


IMAGE COURTESY OF THE MEMBER

Danny K. Davis was chosen by the people of the 7th Congressional District of Illinois as their Representative in Congress on November 5, 1996. He has been re-elected by large majorities to succeeding Congresses, most recently to the 110th Congress on November 7, 2006.

In the 110th Congress (2007–2009), Representative Davis serves on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Committee on Education and Labor. Representative Davis is also a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Progressive Caucus, the India Caucus, the Steel Caucus, the Arts Caucus, the Hellenic Caucus, and the Community Health Centers Caucus.

Representative Davis has distinguished himself as an articulate voice for his constituents and as an effective legislator able to move major bills to passage despite his relative lack of seniority. In the 109th Congress (2005–2007), Davis introduced the Second Chance Act, legislation to facilitate the return of ex-offenders to the community at large.

Davis has developed a unique and energetic style of communication and interaction with his constituents, setting up dozens of advisory task forces to consider significant questions of public policy. He hosts several weekly television and radio shows that feature audience call-in and distributes regular written reports to every household in his district. In addition, he maintains weekly office hours in the district, is widely sought after as a speaker at district events, and sponsors more than 40 town hall meetings each year.

Prior to his election to the Congress, he served on the Cook County board of commissioners, having been elected in November 1990 and re-elected in November 1994. Previously, he served for 11 years as a member of the Chicago city council as alderman of the 29th Ward.

Before seeking public office, Representative Davis had productive careers as an educator, a community organizer, a health planner/administrator and a civil rights advocate. He has received hundreds of awards and citations for outstanding work in the areas of health, education, human relations, politics, and advocacy. He has traveled extensively throughout the United States and has spent time in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and in South and Central America.

Representative Davis is noted for his volunteer and political work. He has served as founder/president of the Westside Association for Community Action, and president of the National Association of Community Health Centers, and was a member of the Harold Washington Campaign Committee and Transition Team in 1983, and a co-chair of the Clinton/Gore/Braun campaigns in 1992. He has also been an officer and a member of many other civic, professional, and social organizations.

Born in Parkdale, Arkansas, on September 6, 1941, Representative Davis moved to the west side of Chicago in 1961, after having earned a bachelor of arts degree from Arkansas A.M. & N. College. He subsequently earned master's and doctoral degrees, respectively, from Chicago State University and the Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio.

He is married to Vera G. Davis and has two sons, Jonathan and Stacey. He is a member and deacon of the New Galilee M.B. Church. Davis is a public servant, an elected official and politician whose primary concern is truly the public interest.

#### **FOR FURTHER READING**

"Davis, Danny K.," *Biographical Directory of the U.S. Congress, 1774–Present*, <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=D000096>.