

2010 Congressional Constituent Survey

	agree	strongly agree	disagree	strongly disagree	not sure
1 I think the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has helped to create jobs and sustain the economy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2 I believe it is important to get non-violent ex-offenders back into the job force.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3 I support the President's plan for the war in Afghanistan.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4 I support Health Care Reform as passed by Congress and signed by the President.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5 I believe employers should not be allowed to deny employment based upon credit checks except for those seeking supervisory, managerial, professional or executive positions at financial institutions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6 I believe it is important to promote the creation of green jobs and provide incentives to companies for "going green."	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7 I support financial incentives for food stores to locate within "food deserts," both in urban and rural areas.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8 I support tighter government regulation of Wall Street.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9 I think private student loans should be forgiven (or discharged) if a person files for bankruptcy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10 I think teachers and school counselors should receive conflict resolution training in an effort to reduce the number of youths arrested or sent to juvenile detention for nonviolent offenses.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11 I support offshore oil drilling.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12 I support the expansion of nuclear power plants.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13 I support significant investment in earthquake preparedness for the 9th District.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14 I support using unobligated TARP funds to provide job training, public works and economic development programs for cities with the highest unemployment rates.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

To respond to the survey, please return this form in an envelope to:

Congressman Steve Cohen
Clifford Davis/Odell Horton Federal Building
167 North Main Street, Suite 369 • Memphis, TN 38103

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

To receive periodic email updates on Congressional activity, 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

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 District Office if your problem has not been resolved to your satisfaction.

Veterans

We can investigate and help you with denied veterans benefits such as pensions and medical care.

Student Information

Internships are available in my District and Washington, DC Offices. An internship provides an excellent opportunity to utilize academic lessons in a hands-on work environment. Internships may be full or part-time and may qualify for college credit.

In addition, we 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.

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

Steve Cohen
 M.C.
 Presorted Standard

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

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 of high school.

Non-Profit Organizations & Municipalities

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

Contact Me

Clifford Davis/Odell Horton Federal Building
 167 North Main Street, Suite 369
 Memphis, TN 38103
 Telephone: (901) 544-4131
 Fax: (901) 544-4329

WEBSITE: COHEN.HOUSE.GOV

CONGRESSMAN STEVE COHEN

Spring 2010



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- Legislative Update
- Awards and Scorecards
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CONGRESSMAN STEVE COHEN

Dear Friends,

Thank you for allowing me to represent you in the U.S. Congress. With the passage of health care reform, 2010 is already an historic year. The passage of these reforms will change the face of our country for the better as certainly as did the passage of the Social Security Act in 1935, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the enactment of Medicare in 1965. Those acts, which have enriched and improved our country, were the result of overwhelming problems that needed to be addressed in our society, just as the health care reform law addresses the lack of access that many of our citizens have to health care.

HR 3590, The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and HR 4872, The Health Care & Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010, will provide health insurance to over 32 million uninsured Americans. 95% of Americans will be covered by quality, affordable health care. This legislation will directly benefit the residents of Shelby County through a provision in the reconciliation package, for which I fought, that increases Tennessee's diminutive Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payment. Under this provision, The MED will receive more federally directed funding than it does now, since it provides more uncompensated care than any other hospital in the State.

This legislative package is not only fully paid for, but actually stands as one of the largest debt reduction measures in years, calculated by the impartial Congressional Budget Office to cut the deficit by \$143 billion in the first ten years and \$1.2 trillion in the decade following.

Memphis has one of the highest infant mortality rates in the country. I fought to include an amendment in the health care bill to combat America's alarmingly high infant mortality rate. Although the NEWBORN Act, which I authored to provide help to cities with high infant mortality rates, did not end up in the health care bill, Chairman Henry Waxman has assured me that it will be addressed soon.

Many challenges still face our government including job creation, economic growth, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the national debt. Below you will find legislative highlights, as well as a survey that I hope you'll fill out and return to help me serve you better. Also, so that you may receive the latest news quickly, please sign up for the weekly e-newsletter by calling my office or visiting cohen.house.gov.

Below: Congressman Cohen was honored by the National Healthy Start Association for his infant mortality work in Congress. Congressman Cohen is pictured with Calandra Tibbs, Project Director for the Healthy Start Program at the Memphis/Shelby County Health Department, who presented the award and former Memphis City Councilman John Vergos.

Awards and Scorecards Received by Congressman Cohen for his work in the 111th Congress

- ★ American Bar Association Day Award for promoting equal access to justice.
- ★ Champion of Consumer Rights Award from the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys for helping working families.

- ★ Humane Society Legislative Leadership Award.
- ★ National Healthy Start Association Award for work to reduce the rate of infant mortality in the United States.

- ★ Appreciation Day Award from Trinity Community Coalition Outreach (TCCO) for work to combat drug and alcohol abuse, recidivism and homelessness.
- ★ "A" from NAACP on their report card for the 111th Congress.

- ★ 100% score League of Conservation Voters.
- ★ 89% score American Association of University Women (AAUW)—highest among Tennessee Delegation.
- ★ 100% score Humane Society.

- ★ Perfect score from Americans for Democratic Action.
- ★ 100% score from the Federally Employed Women (FEW).
- ★ 100% score from Environment America.

More scores will be forthcoming as the 111th Congress progresses. Please visit cohen.house.gov for updates.



Speaker Pelosi, surrounded by Members of the House, speaks at the Enrollment Ceremony following the passage of health care reform.

Overview of Legislation Authored in the 111th Congress

For a complete list of legislation Congressman Cohen is sponsoring and cosponsoring in the 111th Congress, please visit cohen.house.gov

HR 4538, Fair Access to Credit Scores Act of 2010 Allows consumers to receive credit score for free once a year from each of the credit bureaus.

HR 4597, 10 Million Solar Roofs and 10 Million Gallons of Solar Water Heating Act Provides cash rebates for purchase of 10 million solar roofs and 200,000 solar water heaters.

HCon Res 240, Supports designation of the fourth week in April as "National Streetscaping Week" Enhances livability, economic growth, safety, and quality of life.

HRes 1138, Expresses support for the designation of the first week of April 2010 as "National Asbestos Awareness Week."

HR 4852, Critical Infrastructure Earthquake Preparedness Act Directs FEMA to establish a grant program to improve the ability of trauma center hospitals and airports to withstand earthquakes.

HR 4439, Tobacco Tax Parity Act of 2010 Closes a loophole exploited by the tobacco industry to avoid paying millions of dollars in taxes per month.

HR 4740, Jobs for Urban Sustainability (JUST) in America Act Provides grants to cities with high unemployment rates to provide job training, public works and economic development programs.

HR 5043, Private Student Loan Bankruptcy Fairness Act of 2010 Allows discharge of private student loans if borrower must file for bankruptcy.

HR 4950, Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Administration Improvement Act Provides technical improvements to administration of Chapter 7 bankruptcy cases. *Passed House.*

HR 5091, Positive Reduction of Incarceration by Maximizing Education (PRIME) Act Authorizes the Dept. of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice to establish a public awareness campaign about the link between a failed education and incarceration.

HR 4286, Restorative Justice in Schools Act Allows local education agencies to use existing funding to train teachers in restorative justice and conflict resolution.

HR 4364, Citizen Participation (anti-SLAPP) Act Protects against lawsuits intended to chill constitutional rights of free speech and petition.

HR 2765, (Libel Tourism Bill) Prohibits U.S. courts from recognizing or enforcing foreign defamation judgments that do not comport with the First Amendment. *Passed House.*

HR 3149, The Equal Employment for All Act Amends Fair Credit Reporting Act to prohibit use of consumer credit checks against prospective and current employees.

HR ___ The Fresh Start Act Allows expungement of certain non-violent offenders' records.

HR ___ Byrne/JAG Accountability Act Requires states/localities to identify/reduce racial and ethnic disparities in their criminal justice systems.

District Events

Congressman Cohen hosts many events in the District to ensure that constituents have access to their federal government.



Above: Each year Congressman Cohen nominates constituents for the Service Academies. Constituents interested in learning more about the Academy nominations talk with military representatives at the Service Academy event in March.



Above: Constituents attending the UM FedEx Institute event "Doing Business with the Federal Government" listen to a presentation.



Above: At the January District Issues meeting, constituents learn about pending legislation sponsored by Congressman Cohen.



Right: At the Health Fair in February, constituents participate in health screenings.

