THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Meet Tennessee's Newly Elected Lawmakers

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Victoria Broderick

Tennessee's 4th Congressional District (D)

Victoria Broderick is a technology professional and previously served as chair of the Lincoln County Democratic Party. She received her bachelor's degree from Austin Peay State University. She previously ran for the TN-04 seat in 2024. Broderick is a mother of two young boys and resides in Lincoln County. Her district includes the University of Tennessee Space Institute in Tullahoma.



Charlie Hatcher

Tennessee's 5th Congressional District (R)

Charlie Hatcher is a fifth-generation Tennessee dairy farmer. He received his B.S. in Animal Science from Middle Tennessee State University and his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Tennessee in 1984. Hatcher served as Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture from 2019 to 2025, following his appointment by Gov. Bill Lee. Prior to that, he served 10 years as the state veterinarian for the Tennessee Department of Agriculture and started eight businesses, including the Hatcher Family Dairy.



Johnny Garrett

Tennessee's 6th Congressional District (R)

Johnny Garrett is a seventh-generation Goodlettsville native. Garrett attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he obtained a B.S. in General Business. He attended the Nashville School of Law and obtained his J.D. in 2006 and is a practicing lawyer. In 2018, Garrett was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives for District 45 and served as the Tennessee House Majority Whip from 2020 through 2026. Garrett and his wife, Kara, a registered nurse, have three children.



Brent Taylor

Tennessee's 9th Congressional District (R)

Brent Taylor was born and raised in rural North Mississippi. He moved to Memphis to work as a funeral director after earning a degree in mortuary science from Northwest Mississippi Community College. In 1995, he became the youngest person elected to the Memphis City Council at age 27. In 2004, Taylor and his wife, Kimberly, purchased their first funeral home. They expanded their business into the largest family-owned funeral operation in the Mid-South. Taylor served on the Shelby County Election Commission for three years prior to his election to the Tennessee Senate. Taylor was elected to the Senate District 31 seat in 2022. He and Kimberly have been married for more than 30 years and have two adult children.

TENNESSEE STATE SENATE



Jimmy Matlock

SENATE DISTRICT 5 | R-Lenoir City

Jimmy Matlock is a former Tennessee state representative who served House District 21 from 2006 to 2018. Additionally, he has served as a member of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission since 2022, representing the Lenoir City region in East Tennessee. He attended Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee. In addition to his public service, he is a business owner and operates Matlock Tire & Auto.

TENNESSEE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Jessica Means

HOUSE DISTRICT 1 | R-Blountville

Jessica Means, a native of East Tennessee, currently serves as a Sullivan County Commissioner. She also farms and owns a family construction business with her husband. On the commission, she serves on the Finance Management Committee; chairs the Administration Committee and Health Council; and serves on the Education, Opioid Abatement Advisory, and Agricultural Committees. She is an alumnus of East Tennessee State University and is a 2026 graduate of Leadership Kingsport. Means defeated Rep. John Crawford in the primary election. She faced no major party opponent in the general election.



Gary Stidham

HOUSE DISTRICT 2 | R-Kingsport

Gary Stidham is a U.S. Navy veteran with 20 years of service, a former nuclear submarine reactor maintenance manager and a Sullivan County commissioner. He is also a longtime Junior ROTC and high school government teacher at Cherokee High School in Hawkins County. He faced no major-party opponent in the general election and will be replacing retired Rep. Bud Hulsey.



Jordan Henderson

HOUSE DISTRICT 8 | R-Maryville

Jordan Henderson is a Blount County native and current high school educator. Upon completing a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Bethel University, Henderson joined the Knoxville Police Department in 2014. He medically retired from the department in 2021 following injuries sustained in an on-duty car accident in 2016. Henderson now teaches criminal justice through the Career and Technical Education program at a Blount County high school. Henderson is a veteran who served for a decade in the Tennessee Air National Guard, including a deployment to Iraq in 2010. He also holds a second bachelor's degree in history from King University. District 8 was an open seat due to the retirement of Rep. Jerome Moon.



Kenny Cody

HOUSE DISTRICT 11 | R-Cosby

Kenny Cody is an East Tennessee native and educator. Raised in Cosby, Cody graduated from Cosby High School and Walters State Community College before earning a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, a master's degree in education from Tusculum University, and an Educational Specialist degree from Lincoln Memorial University. He has worked as a public school teacher and coach in Cosby and is a freelance contributor as a conservative political columnist. He previously served as chair of the Cocke County Republican Party from 2019 to 2026. District 11 covers Cocke County and parts of Hamblen and Jefferson counties. The seat became open following the retirement of Rep. Jeremy Faison.



Brett Windrow

HOUSE DISTRICT 13 | D-La Vergne

Brett Windrow is an attorney with Progressive Insurance and serves on the La Vergne Board of Zoning Appeals. He previously worked at law firms in Nashville. He holds a bachelor's degree in history and political science from Tennessee Tech University and a Juris Doctor from Belmont University. He was named to the National Trial Lawyers' "Top 40 Under 40" list in Tennessee. Windrow defeated incumbent Rep. Robert Stevens to win the seat.



Bryan Goldberg

HOUSE DISTRICT 18 | D-Knoxville

Bryan Goldberg is the current manager at Knoxville's BELFOR property restoration office. He graduated from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and former student-athlete in swimming. He represented the U.S. at the 2003 Pan American Games and won a gold medal. Following his swimming career, he coached high school and middle school teams for eight years. He is a 2022 graduate of Leadership Knoxville and is currently serving on the Dean's Advisory Board for the UT College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences as well as the East Tennessee Foundation board. Goldberg defeated incumbent Rep. Elaine Davis to secure the seat.



Owen Farnsworth

HOUSE DISTRICT 34 | D-Murfreesboro

Owen Farnsworth grew up in Middle Tennessee and graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in May 2026 with a bachelor's degree in pre-law studies. His election makes him the youngest member of the General Assembly. Farnsworth defeated incumbent Rep. Tim Rudd in the general election.



Andrew Swafford

HOUSE DISTRICT 31 | R-Pikeville

Andrew Swafford grew up in Bledsoe County and serves as Egg Depot Supervisor for Aviagen in Pikeville. He serves as a Bledsoe County commissioner. A graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Swafford earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant Sciences. House District 31, which includes Bledsoe, Rhea, Sequatchie, and Van Buren counties. The seat became open following the retirement of Rep. Ron Travis.



Jack Stockton

HOUSE DISTRICT 32 | R-Kingston

Jack Stockton of Kingston has served as Roane County Sheriff for 20 years. He has more than 42 years of law enforcement experience. Stockton is a graduate of the Tennessee Law Enforcement Academy and Jacksonville Theological Seminary. He has also completed multiple leadership training programs through the County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS). He sought the House seat that opened when Rep. Monty Fritts chose not to seek reelection.



Noah Smith

HOUSE DISTRICT 36 | R-Jacksboro

Noah Smith is an airline pilot for a regional airline whose career also includes news broadcasting, videography, and the Campbell County public school system's technology department. He also served on the Campbell County School Board. Smith is a University of Tennessee, Knoxville, alumnus who also interned with the UT Office of the President and the UT Government Relations team during his time as a student. He serves on the Haslam Young Alumni Board. House District 36 includes Campbell, Union, and part of Claiborne County.



Brian Stewart

HOUSE DISTRICT 45 | R-Hendersonville

Brian Stewart is a Marine, small business owner, and community leader who was raised in Goodlettsville. Since 2019, Stewart has owned One Stop Realty and Auction, and he currently serves as president of the Sumner County Realtors Association. His community involvement includes service with the Hendersonville Morning Rotary, Grace Place, the Tennessee Realtors Governmental Affairs Committee, and other local civic and charitable organizations. Stewart previously served on the Sumner County Commission and was named Sumner County Realtor of the Year in 2021. The seat was open due to Rep. Johnny Garrett pursuing a congressional office.



Connie Casha

HOUSE DISTRICT 49 | D-Smyrna

Connie Casha is the director of early learning programs at Middle Tennessee State University, a position she has held for nearly 10 years. Prior to this role, she was the director of early childhood programs for the Tennessee Department of Education for 15 years. She holds a bachelor's degree from St. Louis University and a master's from MTSU. She defeated incumbent Rep. Mike Sparks to secure the seat.



Mark Proctor

HOUSE DISTRICT 59 | D-Nashville

Mark Proctor is currently a small business owner. He served more than 25 years with the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, including leadership roles with the Tennessee Highway Patrol. Proctor is a graduate of Austin Peay State University and completed management training through Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. In addition to his public safety career, he serves on several HOA boards and has remained active in community issues.



Allie Phillips

HOUSE DISTRICT 75 | D-Clarksville

Allie Phillips is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University and operates an in-home daycare facility. This was her second run for elected office. In her first campaign, she was defeated by the late Rep. Jeff Burkhart in 2024. After Burkhart passed away while serving in office, Michael Lankford was appointed to represent House District 75 in December 2025. Phillips successfully defeated incumbent Lankford in 2026 to win the seat. She is a mother of two.



Perry Keenan

HOUSE DISTRICT 78 | R-Ashland City

Perry Keenan is an independent insurance agent, real estate investor and small business owner. He previously served as mayor, vice mayor, and alderman of Pleasant View. Keenan also served as chair of the Cheatham County Republican Party from 2023 through 2025. He is a graduate of Nashville State Community College and Austin Peay State University. The seat was open following the retirement of Rep. Mary Littleton.



Andrea Bond Johnson

HOUSE DISTRICT 80 | D-Brownsville

Andrea Bond Johnson, owner of Golden Circle Insurance Agency, holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from East Tennessee State University and an Executive MBA from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. A longtime business leader in West Tennessee, Johnson made her third bid for the Tennessee House of Representatives in an open-seat race created by the retirement of Rep. Johnny Shaw, who served the district for 25 years.



Brett Giannini

HOUSE DISTRICT 81 | R-Atoka

Brett Giannini serves as an alderman in Atoka, a town in Tipton County. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he has worked for the Memphis Police Department for 26 years and has served on the Tipton County 911 Board and the Regional Planning Commission. Giannini was elected to represent the district following the retirement of Rep. Debra Moody.



Matthew Szalaj

HOUSE DISTRICT 84 | D-Memphis

Matthew Szalaj is the special assistant for policy to Mayor Paul Young in Memphis. He also has experience serving as a county commissioner, where he was the youngest person to serve in the role. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Memphis and a Master of Public Policy from Brown University. The seat was vacant upon incumbent Rep. Joe Towns's election to the Shelby County Criminal Court Clerk position in August.



John Bradley

HOUSE DISTRICT 93 | D-Memphis

John Bradley is a lifelong Memphian and currently serves in the Shelby County Public Defender's Office as a constituent services coordinator. He won the seat through a write-in campaign. The seat became open following the death of Rep. G.A. Hardaway; his interim successor, Rep. T.J. Hardaway, did not seek a full term. Bradley worked on political campaigns and community organizing efforts before joining local government.



Telisa Franklin

HOUSE DISTRICT 96 | D-Memphis

Telisa Franklin is president of Telisa Franklin Media. In addition to leading her media company, Franklin is a motivational speaker and author. She is active in several civic and community organizations, serving as a clergy ambassador for the Memphis Police Department, and is a graduate of Leadership Memphis. Franklin also serves as president of the Rotary Central Foundation and is active with the Junior League of Memphis. She was elected to the seat previously held by Rep. Gabby Salinas, who was defeated in her bid for renomination in the Democratic primary.



Jesse Huseth

HOUSE DISTRICT 97 | D-Memphis

Jesse Huseth, a graduate of the University of Memphis, is a small business owner and former public school teacher. He and his wife have two daughters. In his second bid for elected office, Huseth unseated incumbent Rep. John Gillespie to win the seat.