

**Congressional District Officers**

**East Tennessee:**

\*District 1—Vacant

District 2—Herb Arnett, Knoxville

District 3—Catheryne N. Blocker, Cleveland

**Middle Tennessee:**

\*District 4—2 Officers:  
W C Chilton, McMinnville,  
and 1 Vacant

District 5—John F. Wells, Brentwood

District 6—Matt Bauer, Murfreesboro

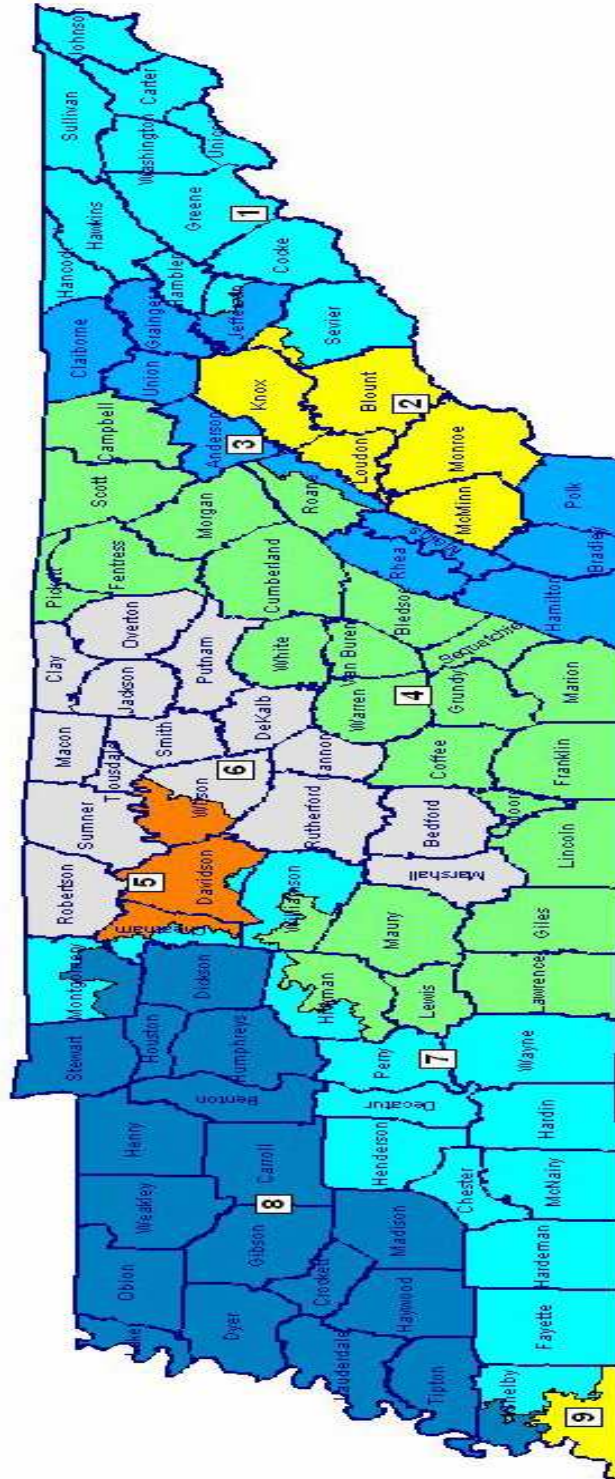
**West Tennessee:**

District 7—Warren Zimmer, Bartlett

\*District 8—2 District Officers, both vacant

District 9—Bonnie Bridgeforth, Memphis

\*For vacant District Officer positions, the Vice President for that area assumes the responsibility for the legislative work



TENNESSEE FEDERATION  
POLITICAL  
PLAN—  
2006-2008



**Louis Pasteur:**

Let me tell you the secret that has led me to my goal: my strength lies solely in my tenacity.

## Political Plan – Tennessee Federation 2006-2008

### Old Political Plan:

- Area Legislative Representatives
- Crossed congressional districts
- Ineffective system
- Many “retired on job” or never knew they were to do anything substantial

### New Political Plan:

- District Officers
- Officer for each of Tennessee’s 9 Congressional Districts
- Two larger districts have 2 District Officers
- 3 major areas of state:
- West, Middle and East
- 1 VP for each of the 3 areas of state

Nominations for District Officer go to our National Legislative Chair for Tennessee. After interviews and tentative selection, recommendation goes to Federation President for approval.

- ♦ 3 hour training for each new District Officer with Handbook given him/her especially developed for his/her Congressional District.

- ♦ Computer and email required
- ♦ Each District Officer is to maintain close relationships with the Congressman for their district, as well as the staff of the senators. Very successful in our legislative relationships with this close network of individuals.

### 4 major qualifications and responsibilities:

- 1) be responsible for your chapters on legislation – keep communications open, and visit at least twice a year – keep them up to date on events and have quick chain of communications for alerts – monthly if not weekly updates to chapters via email
- 2) get to know your legislators and key staff members – frequent communications via email or fax and phone, as well as personal visits
- 3) help pump up NARFE-PAC and its importance
- 4) send reports quarterly of activities.

All but one of our Congressmen have signed on to Premium Conversion; 6 of our Congressmen have signed on as co-sponsors for WEP/GPO.

The District Officers were instrumental in this success. They make our needs known to the Congressmen, and they don’t give up. They persist and persevere.

**Expectation from this Session: To get some feedback or insight on how to better accomplish our legislative goals – our members are getting old and discouraged with this effort, which is negatively impacting our organization.**

Overall, negative comments on our legislative program are hurting us – our experience is that the same people who are negative on legislation are negative on everything else. Neither our new members nor our “old” members need to keep hearing and reading negative comments from us or our leaders – in the NARFE Magazine, on email, or at chapter or federation meetings.

**Let’s put our comments in a positive fashion – that will help our legislative program probably more than anything else we can do.**

You must not only aim aright, but draw the bow with all your might.  
**Henry David Thoreau**

Your aspirations are your possibilities.  
**Samuel Johnson**

You cannot tailor make the situations in life, but you can tailor make the attitudes to fit those situations before they arise.  
**Zig Ziglar**