



Congressman Stephen Ira Cohen (D)
Ninth Congressional District
U.S. House of Representative

Representing the Ninth Congressional District, Stephen Ira “Steve” Cohen, a native Memphian, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives November 7, 2006. He serves on the Judiciary Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Upon becoming a member of congress, Steve Cohen immediately distinguished himself as a passionate, progressive and forthright voice, receiving national media recognition from The Washington Post, The New York Times, NBC Evening News, CNN, Air America and The Daily Show, among others, for his strong stance against continuing the Iraq War and as a proponent of an increased minimum wage, stem cell research, universal health care, increased funding of the COPS program, and energy innovations and

independence. On a lighter note, Congressman Cohen was a featured guest on the Colbert Report’s Better Know a District on Comedy Central. Cohen is a member of both the Progressive and Out of Iraq Caucuses.

Congressman Cohen earned a B.A. from Vanderbilt University and a J.D. from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphrey School of Law. From 1978 until his election to Congress, Cohen had a private law practice in Memphis. Born on May 24, 1949, in Memphis, Steve Cohen is the son of Genevieve Cohen and the late Dr. Morris Cohen. To find out more about Congressman Cohen, visit his website at www.house.gov/cohen.



Bob Costello,
Chief Economist and Vice President for the American Trucking
Associations (ATA)

ATA is the national trade association for the trucking industry. As Chief Economist, Mr. Costello manages all of ATA’s collection, analysis and dissemination of trucking economic information. This includes several monthly trucking economic indicators, motor carrier financial and operating data, an annual freight transportation forecast, driver wage studies, weekly diesel fuel price and economic reports, and a yearly trucking almanac. Mr. Costello also conducts economic analyses of proposed regulations and legislation affecting the trucking industry.

Mr. Costello is often cited in the news media as an expert on trucking economics, including the Wall Street Journal, Business Week, CNBC, FOX Business Channel, and National Public Radio. He has testified at congressional hearings on trucking issues. In March 2010, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation appointed Mr. Costello to the Advisory Council on Transportation Statistics (ACTS), which advises the Department’s Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS).

Mr. Costello is a member of the National Association for Business Economics and has served on several research and project panels for the Transportation Research Board, which is part of the National Academies. Prior to joining ATA in 1997, he was an economist with Joel Popkin & Company in Washington D.C., an economic consulting firm that specializes in the analysis of wages, inflation, and economic trends.

Mr. Costello has a Master’s degree from the University of Northern Iowa and a Bachelor of Arts from Winona State University in Winona, MN. He lives in Alexandria, VA with his wife, Megan, and daughter, Campbell.



Jeff Rott
Commercial Operations Manager
Cargill Corn Milling Plant

Jeffrey (Jeff) Rott has served as Commercial Operations Manager at the Cargill Corn Milling Plant in Memphis, Tennessee since 2006. In his capacity he manages and oversees the commercial, logistics and production planning aspects of the facility. It is his team's responsibility to ensure the plant's products are produced on time and delivered flawlessly to customers.

The 300-employee Memphis plant grinds over 200,000 bushels of corn a day and produces over 50 products across 7 product lines, which include corn sugars, syrups, industrial starches, oils and three branded animal feed lines. To accomplish this, the plant utilizes trucks, railcars, barges, and intermodal containers to ship an average of 20 million pounds of product a day to their customers. The plant has global reach, shipping to locations in the Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

After graduating from Florida State University in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in economics, Jeff joined Cargill with the Corn Milling Division in Cedar Rapids, Iowa as a shift supervisor. In 1991, he transferred to the Corn Milling Supply Chain group managing corn sweetener distribution facilities in Stockton, California, Dallas, Texas, and Miami, Florida. He gained experience handling international shipments via trucks, containers and iso-tanks during his time at these locations.

In 1997, Jeff was selected to join a 5-member team tasked to develop an innovative way to ship sweeteners in barges from Memphis to terminals in Tampa, Florida and Houston, Texas. While assisting in the development of barges as viable mode to transport corn sweeteners, he managed the construction of a \$3.5 million dollar distribution terminal with access to Tampa Bay. After construction and startup of the facility, he transferred to Memphis in 1998 to manage a network of 3rd party distribution locations. In 2002 he took on managing the southern region distribution locations.

During his career, Jeff has been recognized for a number of achievements, but he is proudest of being a member of Cargill Corn Milling when they were selected to receive the prestigious 2008 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for Manufacturing.

Jeff has been married to his wife Delaine for 16 years. They are the proud parents of two boys, Jake (12) and Walker (11). He is an Assistant Scoutmaster with Boy Scout Troop 368 in Germantown. He enjoys camping, shooting sports, computers and spending time with his family and their two dogs, Cocoa and Dooley.