

GENE GREEN (D-TX-29)

**IN OFFICE**

Up for re-election in 2016

12th Term

Re-elected in 2014

CONTACT

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 **DC Office** 2470 Rayburn House
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BGOV BIOGRAPHY

By J. Kyle Foster, Bloomberg News

Democrat Gene Green has represented his mostly Hispanic district in Texas since 1993. Green says his constituents are focused on their jobs, faith and family and he tries to make decisions in Washington on those ideals.

To bring more jobs to his district, Green, who serves on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, is co-sponsor of legislation to extend oil-and-gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico for one year.

He also led the effort to repeal a moratorium on offshore drilling following the BP Plc oil spill in April 2010. Green says the legislation is vital to reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil and will provide jobs for those who count on the Gulf's energy economy for their livelihoods.

Green was born in Houston in the district he represents. He says he returns to Texas from Washington every weekend to see his wife, children and grandchildren, and to live among the people who elected him.

"When I have time off, that's what I want to do," Green said in a telephone interview in April 2011.

He graduated from the University of Houston with a degree in business administration in 1971, working his way through school as the manager of printing business. He was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1972 while attending the university's Bates College of Law.

In 1977, Green was admitted to the State Bar of Texas. After 12 years in the Texas House, he was elected to the state Senate in 1985, and served until 1992. Green still signs legislation with a green pen he used as a state representative.

He married Helen Albers, and they have a daughter, a son, and four grandchildren. Green met Albers at Sunday school where their families went to church together. They married in 1970 and Albers Green, who is a retired high school algebra teacher, travels to Washington with her husband on weeks when they can find affordable flights, Green said.

Bloomberg GOVERNMENT

In July 2010, she lost her left eye when one of Green's political signs hit her as they were moving from a year-round office to campaign headquarters.

Family is a big theme with Green when he speaks. With more than 19 percent of people in his district living below the poverty level, jobs and health care are what families are worried about, he said. For his part, Green is a proponent of Planned Parenthood, especially the agency's neonatal work. Green voted in 2011 against a House bill to bar federal funding to the organization.

"I support the funding for anybody who will do women's health care," he said.

Green also supports health-care overhaul that became law in 2010 and is opposed to bills that would defund the legislation.

"We're going to go back and look at it. ... There's always room for improvement," he said. "Repeal is not an option in our district."

BIO FROM REPRESENTATIVE'S WEBSITE

From the Representative's Website

Congressman Gene Green was first elected to Congress from the 29th Congressional District of Texas in 1992 after twenty years in the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Senate. In 1996, Green was appointed to the powerful U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee, which he continues to serve on today.

For the 114th Congress, he serves on the Subcommittee on Health, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, Subcommittee on Environment and Economy, and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.

Since being elected to the House of Representatives, Rep. Green has been a champion of education, labor, energy, domestic manufacturing, health issues, and preserving Social Security and veterans benefits. He has worked hard to improve access to quality health care, support initiatives to improve our economy and job training, and maintain financial aid for students.

Rep. Green has been involved in a number of local issues and projects. He has been instrumental in securing federal funds for the expansion of the Port of Houston and Houston METRO's light rail; supporting the expansion of community health centers in the Houston area; and pushing legislation to declare the Buffalo Bayou a National Heritage Area. Rep. Green also organizes many annual events in the 29th District that serve the community. His annual "Citizenship Day" and "Immunization Day" are two of his most successful annual events, along with dozens of neighborhood town hall meetings each year.

Green, a native Houstonian, graduated from Jeff Davis High School. He received a degree in Business Administration from the University of Houston in 1971. He attended Bates College of Law at the University of Houston and was admitted as a member of the State Bar of Texas in 1977.

In 1970 he married Helen Albers Green. Helen retired after teaching math in the Aldine Independent School District for 26 years. They have two children; Dr. Angela Green Hewlett and Christopher Green, and four grandchildren, Lauren, Braden, Dylan and Tristan. The Green family attends Spring Woods United Methodist Church in Houston.

PERSONAL PROFILE

COMMITTEES

[House Committee on Energy and Commerce](#)

CAUCUSES

[Tuberculosis Elimination Caucus](#)

[Democratic Israel Working Group](#)

Birthdate 10/17/1947

Birthplace Houston, TX

Political Party Democratic Party

Marital Status Married

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Education

University of Houston
Bachelor's Degree 1971

Bates College

Status	Date of Birth	
	1977	
Spouse	Helen Albers Green	
Residence	Houston, TX	
Family	2 children; 4 grandchildren	
Religion	Methodist	
	Lawyer, Private Practice 1973 - 1985 State Representative, (TX)House of Representatives 1985 - 1993 State Senator, (TX)Senate 01-03-1993 - Present Representative:Texas, (US)House of Representatives	