

## **Congressman John Conyers, Jr. (MI-13), Ranking Member, House Judiciary Committee**

Congressman John Conyers, Jr. represents Michigan's 13th Congressional District, which encompasses much of the Detroit metropolitan area. In 2016, Congressman Conyers was elected to his 26th consecutive term, maintaining his position as the first African-American to hold the distinguished position as Dean of the House of Representatives.

Congressman Conyers is the current Ranking Member and a former Chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary. Previously, he served as Chair of the Committee on Government Operations (now the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform). Congressman Conyers is a Founding Member and Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Over the course of Congressman Conyers' 52 years of public service, he has been a major proponent of more than 100 pieces of critical legislation, including the original Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, the Motor Voter Bill of 1993, the Alcohol Warning Label Act of 1988, the USA Freedom Act of 2015, and the Jazz Preservation Act of 1987. Congressman Conyers was also the driving force behind the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

On April 8, 1968, four days after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated, Congressman Conyers introduced the original Martin Luther King Holiday Act of 1983. After 15 years, the bill eventually was passed into law, making the third Monday of January as an official Federal holiday.

Congressman Conyers, born in Detroit, MI, attended Northwestern High School. Upon graduation, he matriculated to Wayne State University for his undergraduate and legal studies. Congressman Conyers served in the National Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers during the Korean War.