

Congressional Leadership in the 116th Congress



Leadership of the House and Senate will meet to determine committee assignments and committee leadership for the 116th Congress. Committee compositions depend on the majority parties in each Chamber, ratio of the majority to minority, leadership negotiations, and House and Senate leadership elections.

In the House, eight incumbent committee chairmen are retiring. Republican-imposed term-limits on committee chairmen resulted in five of the retiring members unable to seek another term as chair. The House Republican Conference ratified Committee Ranking Member positions on November 30.

In the Senate, Republican retirements have led to open leadership positions on the Foreign Relations and Finance Committees. Democratic leadership changes have been shaped by the loss of Sens. Bill Nelson (D-FL), Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) and Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-MO).



House Party Leadership

2018

Speaker of the House

Nancy Pelosi (CA-05)

Majority Leader

Steny Hoyer (MD-05)

Majority Whip

Jim Clyburn (SC-06)

Assistant Democratic Leader

Ben Ray Lujan (NM-03)

Democratic Caucus Chair

Hakeem Jeffries (NY-08)

Democratic Caucus Vice Chair

Katherine Clark (MA-05)

DCCC Chair

Cheri Bustos (IL-17)

Minority Leader

Kevin McCarthy (CA-23)

Minority Whip

Steve Scalise (LA-01)

Republican Conference Chair

Liz Cheney (WY-AL)

Republican Conference Vice Chair

Mark Walker (NC-06)

Republican Policy Committee Chair

Gary Palmer (AL-06)

NRCC Chair

Tom Emmer (MN-06)



House Committee Leadership Procedures

2018

Democratic Caucus Procedures

The Democratic Steering and Policy Committee nominates Chairmen, subject to approval to the entire Democratic Caucus, with the exception of three committees. Democratic rules govern that "merit, length of service on the committee and degree of commitment to the Democratic agenda of the nominee, and diversity of the Caucus" are considered in the selection of Chairman.

Democrats have historically selected the most senior member on each committee as Chairman. In 2009, Democrats removed the House rule established in 1995 limiting a Chairman from serving no longer than three terms.

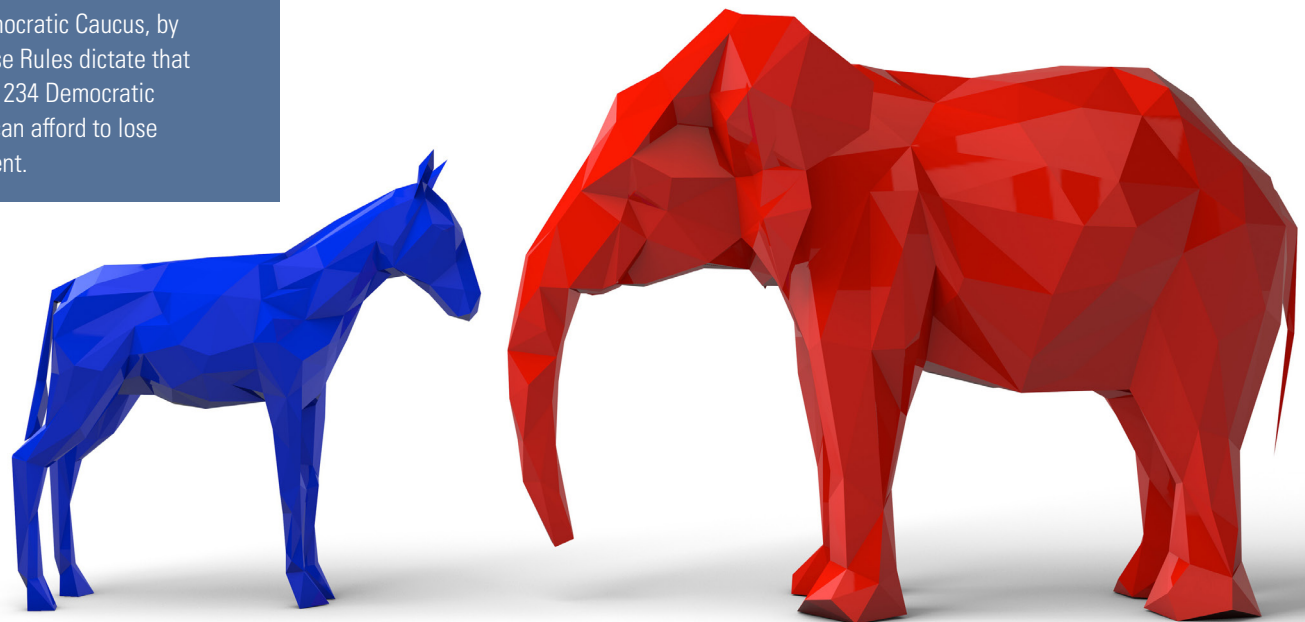
The Democratic Leader nominates a Chair for the Committees on Rules and House Administration, subject to the approval of the entire Caucus. The Budget Chair is selected from among members choosing to run for the position, and is not solely based upon seniority.

For Speaker of the House, Democrats nominate a candidate in the Democratic Caucus, by majority vote. That candidate proceeds to the House Floor, where House Rules dictate that the Speaker receive a majority, 218 votes, to be elected Speaker. With 234 Democratic Representatives in the 116th Congress, Former Speaker Nancy Pelosi can afford to lose 17 Democratic votes, unless Members do not participate, or vote present.

Republican Conference Procedures

The Republican Steering Committee nominates Ranking Members, subject to approval to the entire Republican Conference, with the exception of Rules and House Administration. Republican Conference rules do not require Ranking Members be the member with the longest service on the committee. In 2013, House Republicans reinstated a three-term limit for Committee leadership.

The Republican Minority Leader selects the Ranking Member of Rules and Ranking Member of House Administration. Nominees are subject to the approval of the Republican Conference.



Source: Congressional Research Service



House Steering Committee Composition

2018

Democratic Steering Committee

Speaker (If Majority)

House Democratic Leader

Assistant Democratic Leader

Democratic Whip

Steering and Policy Co-Chairs 2, and **Vice Chairs** 2

Democratic Caucus Chair and Vice-Chair, DCCC Chair

Chief Deputy Whips 8

Regional Members 12

Committee Leaders 6

Freshman Class Member

Democratic Leader Appointees 15

Republican Steering Committee

Speaker (If Majority)

House Republican Leader

Republican Whip and Chief Deputy Whip

Republican Conference Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Policy Chair, NRCC Chair

Chairman Designee 1, **Speaker Designee** 1, **At-Large Members** 6

Texas Representative 1, **Regional Representatives** 11, and **Small State Representative** 1

114th-116th Class Representatives 3

Retirements Impacting Committee Gavels

Eight Republicans currently leading House Committees did not seek reelection in 2018:

Rodney Frelinghuysen, Appropriations

Bob Goodlatte, Judiciary

Jeb Hensarling, Financial Services

Trey Gowdy, Oversight and Government Reform

Ed Royce, Foreign Affairs

Lamar Smith, Science, Space, and Technology

Gregg Harper, House Administration

Bill Shuster, Transportation and Infrastructure

In the House, one Democratic Ranking Member was elected to higher office:

Tim Walz, Veterans' Affairs

Source: Congressional Research Service



House Committee Leadership

2018

Administration



Zoe Lofgren (CA)



Rodney Davis (IL)

Agriculture



Collin Peterson (MN)



Michael Conaway (TX)

Appropriations



Nita Lowey (NY)



Kay Granger (TX)



Armed Services



Adam Smith (WA)



Mac Thornberry (TX)

Key	Committee Name	
	 Democrat (State)	 <i>Republican (State)</i>
Italics denotes incumbent Chair or Ranking Member		

House Committee Leadership

2018

Budget



John Yarmuth (KY)

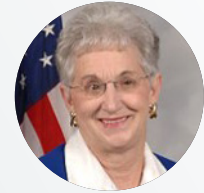


Steve Womack (AR)

Education and the Workforce



Bobby Scott (VA)



Virginia Foxx (NC)

Energy and Commerce



Frank Pallone (NJ)



Greg Walden (OR)

Ethics



Ted Deutch (FL)



Kenny Marchant (TX)



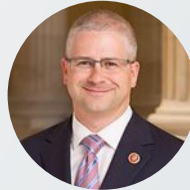
House Committee Leadership

2018

Financial Services



Maxine Waters (CA)



Patrick McHenry (NC)

Foreign Affairs



Eliot Engel (NY)



Michael McCaul (TX)

Homeland Security



Bennie Thompson (MS)

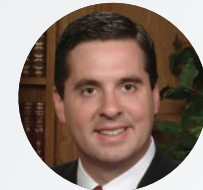


Mike Rogers (AL)

Intelligence



Adam Schiff (CA)

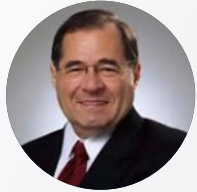


Devin Nunes (CA)

House Committee Leadership

2018

Judiciary



Jerry Nadler (NY)



Doug Collins (GA)

Natural Resources



Raul Grijalva (AZ)



Rob Bishop (UT)

Oversight and Government Reform



Elijah Cummings (MD)



Jim Jordan (OH)

Rules



James McGovern (MA)



Tom Cole (OK)



House Committee Leadership

2018

Science, Space, and Technology

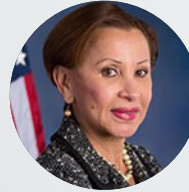


Eddie Johnson (TX)



Frank Lucas (OK)

Small Business



Nydia Velazquez (NY)



Steve Chabot (OH)

Transportation and Infrastructure



Peter DeFazio (OR)



Sam Graves (MO)

Veterans' Affairs



Mark Takano (CA)

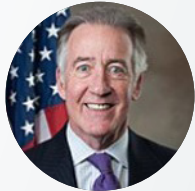


Phil Roe (TN)

House Committee Leadership

2018

Ways and Means



Richard Neal (MA)



Kevin Brady (TX)



Joint Committees

Budget/Appropriations Reform	Pensions
Economic	Printing
Library	Taxation

The chairmanship of joint committees usually alternates between the House and Senate. Chairmanship of the Economic, Library, and Taxation Joint Committees will revert to the Senate. Chairmanship of the Pensions and Printing Committees will revert to the House.



Senate Party Leadership

2018

Majority Leader

Mitch McConnell (KY)

Majority Whip

John Thune (SD)

Republican Conference Chair

John Barrasso (WY)

Republican Policy Committee Chair

Roy Blunt (MO)

Republican Conference Vice Chair

Joni Ernst (IA)

NRSC Chair

Todd Young (IN)

Minority Leader

Chuck Schumer (NY)

Minority Whip

Dick Durbin (IL)

Democratic Assistant Leader

Patty Murray (WA)

Democratic Policy Committee Chair

Debbie Stabenow (MI)

Democratic Caucus Vice Chairs

Elizabeth Warren (MA), **Mark Warner** (VA)

DSCC Chair

Catherine Cortez Masto (NV)



Senate Committee Leadership Procedures

2018

Under Senate tradition, the majority party member with the greatest seniority on a committee serves as its chairman. In 1995, the Republican Party allowed for a secret ballot to select committee chairmen, along with a six-year term limit on committee chairmen and ranking members.

Senate committees are divided by three types: A, B and C. Each Senator may serve on no more than two Class A committees, and one class B committee. There are no limits on Class C committees.

Republican Conference rules limit Senators to service on only one of the “Super A” committees – Appropriations, Armed Services, Finance and Foreign Relations. Democrats impose limits on the same committees, with the exception of Foreign Relations.

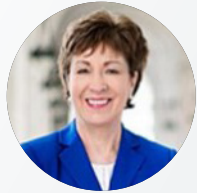
Under party procedure, Senators from the same state and party cannot serve on the same committee(s).



Senate Committee Leadership

2018

Aging



Susan Collins (ME)



Robert Casey (PA)

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

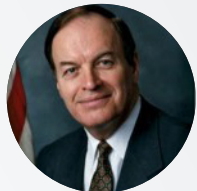


Pat Roberts (KS)



Debbie Stabenow (MI)

Appropriations



Richard Shelby (AL)

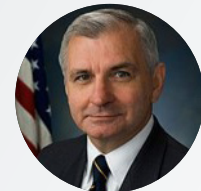


Patrick Leahy (VT)

Armed Services



James Inhofe (OK)



Jack Reed (RI)

Key	Committee Name	
	R	D
	Republican (State)	Democrat (State)
	Italics denotes incumbent Chair or Ranking Member	

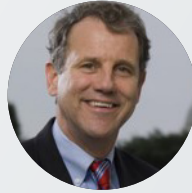
Senate Committee Leadership

2018

Banking, House, and Urban Affairs



Mike Crapo (ID)

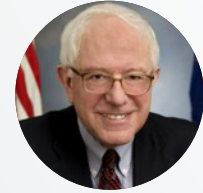


Sherrod Brown (OH)

Budget



Michael Enzi (WY)



Bernie Sanders (VT)

Commerce, Science, and Transportation



Roger Wicker (MS)



Maria Cantwell (WA)

Energy and Natural Resources



Lisa Murkowski (AK)



Joe Manchin (WV)



Environment and Public Works



John Barrasso (WY)



Tom Carper (DE)

Ethics



Johnny Isakson (GA)

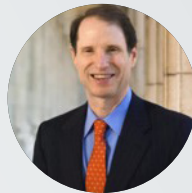


Chris Coons (DE)

Finance



Chuck Grassley (IA)



Ron Wyden (OR)

Foreign Relations

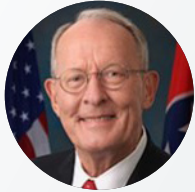


James Risch (ID)



Robert Menendez (NJ)

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions



Lamar Alexander (TN)



Patty Murray (WA)

Homeland Security and Government Affairs

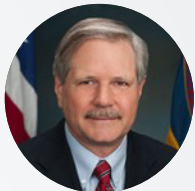


Ron Johnson (WI)

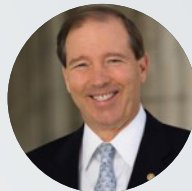


Gary Peters (MI)

Indian Affairs



John Hoeven (ND)



Tom Udall (NM)

Intelligence

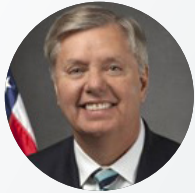


Richard Burr (NC)



Mark Warner (VA)

Judiciary



Lindsey Graham (SC)



Dianne Feinstein (CA)

Rules and Administration



Roy Blunt (MO)



Amy Klobuchar (MN)

Small Business and Entrepreneurship



Marco Rubio (FL)



Ben Cardin (MD)

Veterans' Affairs



Johnny Isakson (GA)



Jon Tester (MT)

