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Capital Snapshot: Lame Duck Session, Year-End Wrap Up, and Look-Ahead to 2025

December 2024

This Month's Capital Snapshot Deck Includes:

- A high-level recap of the final 2024 election results
- An overview of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Continuing Resolution (CR) and accompanying policy and funding riders
- An overview of the compromise version of the FY25 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)
- An overview of the newly announced 2025 congressional schedules
- A review of congressional party leadership for the 119th Congress
- A preview of the congressional committees, including committee leaders for the 119th Congress
- A look at President-elect Donald Trump's key administration appointments and nominees

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Topline Election Results

2024 General Election: Topline Results

PRESIDENT

312 GOP **226** Dem

[Electoral College votes; 270 needed to win]

All states have now been called

REPUBLICAN FLIP

REPUBLICANS take control of the White House

SENATE

53 GOP

47 Dem

[51 seats needed to win]

All states have now been called

REPUBLICAN FLIP

REPUBLICANS take control of the Senate

220 GOP **215** Dem

HOUSE

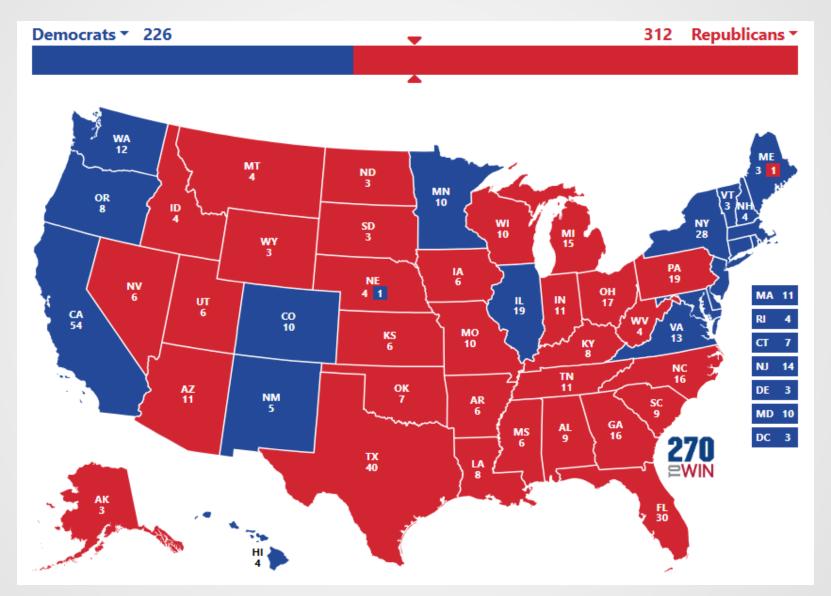
[218 seats needed to win]

All districts have now been called

REPUBLICAN HOLD

REPUBLICANS maintain control of the House

Presidential Electoral College Map



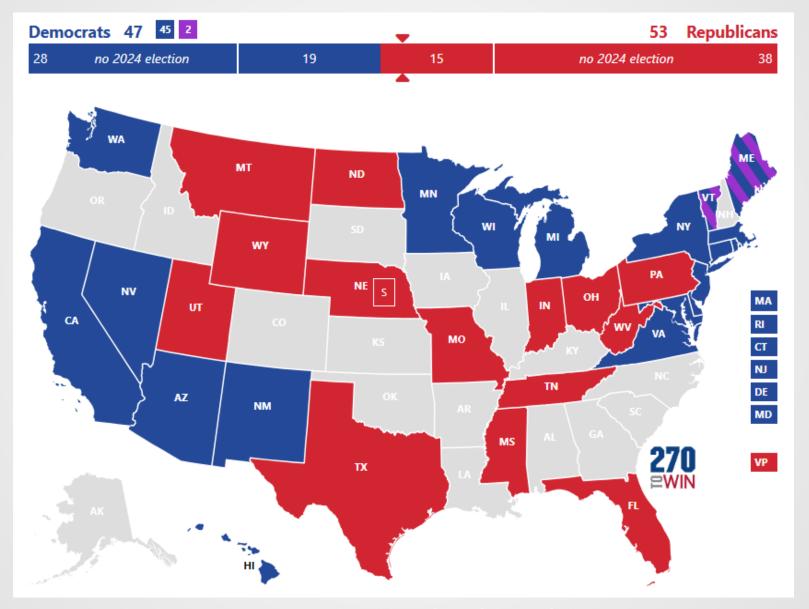
Presidential Election Results

- Former President Donald Trump (R-FL) and Senator JD Vance (R-OH) defeated Vice President Kamala Harris (D-CA) and Governor Tim Walz (D-MN) in the 2024 U.S. presidential election. The Republican ticket won the Electoral College by a tally of 312-226, which is similar to former President Trump's 2016 Electoral College victory, with the only difference being he won Nevada this year after losing it in 2016 (and 2020).
- Former President Trump, now President-elect Trump, will become only the second president in U.S. history to serve two non-consecutive terms as president (2017-2021 and 2025-2029), the first being President Grover Cleveland (1885-1889 and 1893-1897).
- Unlike 2016, when President-elect Trump won the Electoral College but lost the national popular vote by about 2.9 million votes, President-elect Trump is projected to win the popular vote in this election. This is only the second time since 1992 that the Republican presidential nominee has won the popular vote, the other time being former President George W. Bush's victory in 2004.

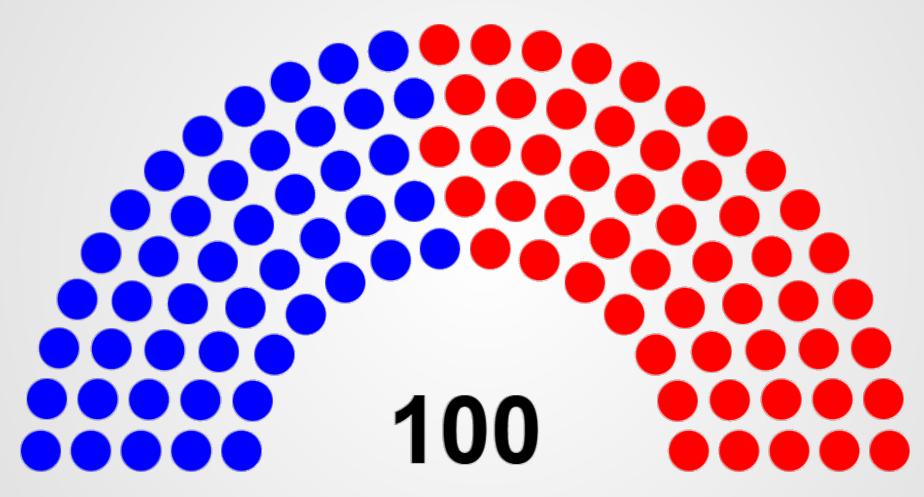


President-elect Donald Trump (R)

U.S. Senate Election Map



Composition of the U.S. Senate

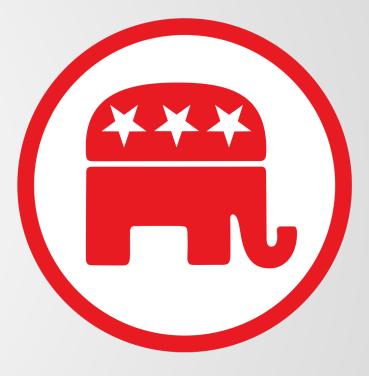


Source: Parliament Diagram Tool

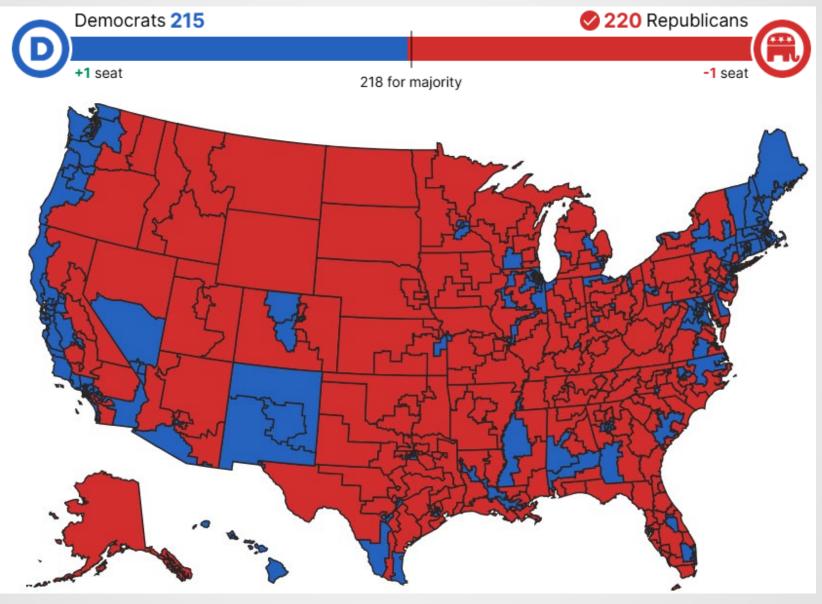
**The Senate Democratic Caucus will include two independent Senators who will caucus with the Democrats – Sens. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Angus King (I-ME).

Republicans Take Control of the U.S. Senate

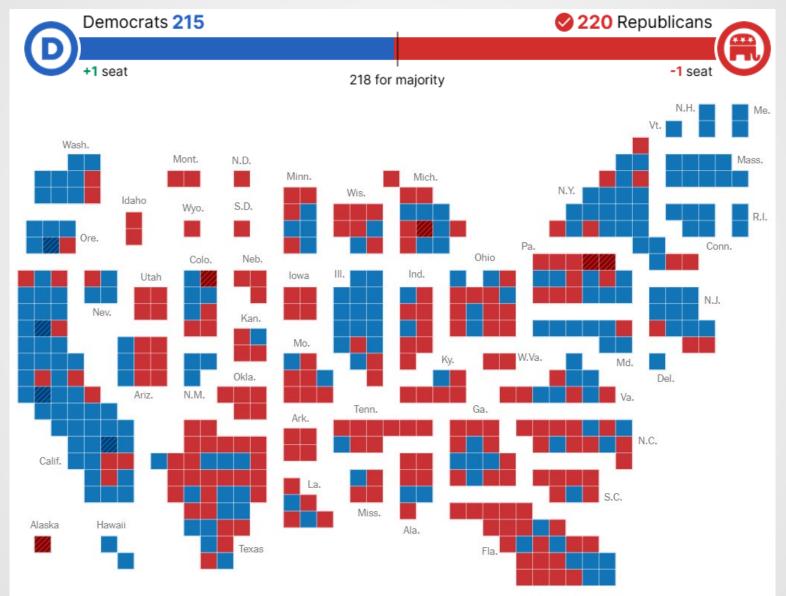
- Republicans flipped the Senate and will start the 119th Congress with a larger than expected majority of 53 seats. This will be the first time that Republicans will be in the Senate majority since January 2021.
- Republicans only needed to flip two seats in order to regain control of the Senate. Republicans were likely to win in West Virginia, where Governor Jim Justice (R-WV) won by a significant margin. Republicans also won in Montana, where Tim Sheehy (R-MT) defeated three-term incumbent Senator Jon Tester (D-MT) by about 7.1 points. Bernie Moreno (R-OH) also defeated incumbent Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) by 3.8 points.
- The biggest surprise for the Senate was in Pennsylvania, where David McCormick (R-PA) defeated Senator Bob Casey (D-PA) by 0.2 points. Sen. Casey was thought to be the "safest" Democrat in the "Blue Wall" of Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.
- Democrats had to defend 23 out of the 34 Senate seats that were up for election this year, which proved to be too much for the party; this included incumbents in nine states that were considered "competitive."



U.S. House of Representatives Election Map



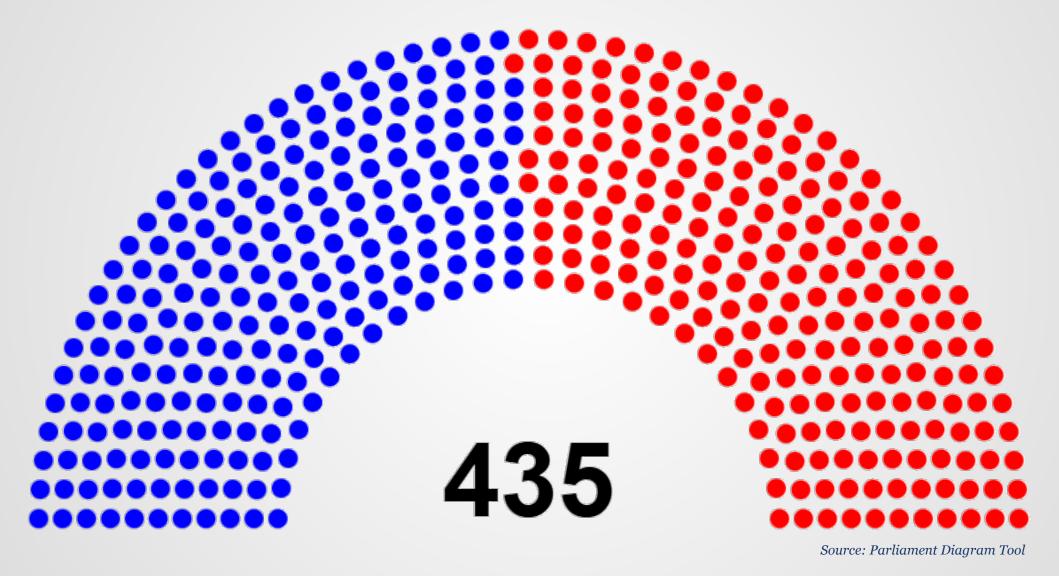
U.S. House of Representatives Election Map, Proportional



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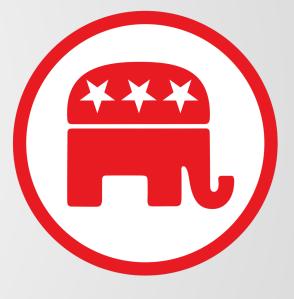
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Composition of the U.S. House of Representatives



Republicans Keep Control of the U.S. House

- Republicans secured a majority in the U.S. House of Representatives for the 119th Congress in the 2024 elections. However, their majority will only be razor-thin, at 220-215, which is just a two-vote majority.
- Both parties saw a few of their incumbents lose re-election, but Democrats actually gained a net of one seat overall, which was not enough to flip the chamber. There were only about 20-25 true "toss-up" seats around the country.
- Further complicating matters for House Republican leadership is President-elect Trump has nominated two sitting House members to positions in his cabinet: Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY), for U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations (UN), and Rep. Michael Waltz (R-FL), for U.S. National Security Advisor.
- The President-elect had also nominated Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL) for U.S. Attorney General, but he <u>removed himself from consideration</u> for the position on November 21 after it became evident that he would not get 50 votes in the U.S. Senate for his confirmation. Rep. Gaetz retired from the House moments after President-elect Trump announced he was nominating him for Attorney General.
- The departures of Reps. Stefanik, Waltz, and Gaetz means that House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) and the rest of House Republican leadership will need to contend with a *zero-vote majority* of 217-215 in the first few months of the new Congress until special elections for those congressional seats can be held.

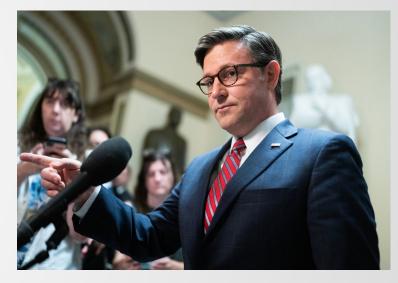


118th Congress Key Lame Duck and End-of-Year Updates

FY25 Appropriations – CR Update

- On December 17, 2024, congressional leaders announced they had reached a deal on a bipartisan <u>continuing resolution</u> to temporarily fund the government through March 14, 2025.
- This CR the Further Continuing Appropriations and Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2025 (<u>H.R. 10445</u>) also included a plethora of "policy riders" and "funding riders," most notably \$100 billion in disaster aid to help states in the southeast whose communities were devastated by recent hurricanes.
- The 1,547-page CR also included a one-year extension of the must-pass "Farm Bill," and also included \$31 billion in disaster aid and economic assistance for farmers. \$21 billion of this funding comes from the \$100 billion in disaster aid.
- The bill contained a 550-page bipartisan health care package that included reauthorizations of several key programs and bills, including the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act and the SUPPORT Act, the latter of which addresses opioid addiction. Additionally, the health package contained a variety of significant reforms to the business practices of pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), as well as a two-year extension of pandemic-era Medicare telehealth flexibilities.
- Furthermore, the CR package included \$250 million in emergency funding to increase access to childcare for working families.
- The measure also contained provisions that placed restrictions on U.S. investment in China, and that addressed supply chain resilience, American blockchain technology, and domestic chip manufacturing.
- Other policy areas that were addressed in this CR included: telecommunications, cybersecurity, workforce development, public lands, and infrastructure repairs and maintenance funding.

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House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA)

FY25 Appropriations – CR Update



Incoming Department of Government Efficiency Co-Chair Elon Musk



President-elect Donald Trump

- However, less than a day after the CR was unveiled, significant issues with the bill began to surface. There was a lot of frustration among rank-and-file Republicans over the size and scope of the CR, with both moderate House Republicans and hardline conservative House Republicans expressing disappointment with the CR.
- In a significant blow to Speaker Mike Johnson's (R-LA) CR plans, Elon Musk, a top ally of President-elect Donald Trump, and the incoming Co-Chair of the new Department of Government Efficiency, actively and persistently <u>criticized</u> the CR on December 18, 2024, urging Congress to "<u>kill the bill</u>."
- After staying silent on the matter for most of the day, President-elect Trump and Vice President-elect JD Vance released a joint statement in which they expressed their opposition to the current version of the CR and suddenly urged Congress to raise the debt limit as part of the CR. The President-elect was previously against raising the debt ceiling when it was last addressed in 2023.
- As a result of Musk's and Trump's opposition, the CR package that was released on December 17, 2024 then had no path forward. The numerous other policy rider provisions in the bill, including consequential health care reforms, and funding for key projects and programs, will now not be passed into law by the end of this Congress.
- In response to President-elect Trump's debt ceiling request, House Republicans then held a vote on a "clean" CR that included a two-year debt limit suspension. However, this version of the CR failed in a <u>174-235-1</u> vote, with 38 Republicans and all but two Democrats voting against the bill.

FY25 Appropriations – CR Update

- On December 20, 2024, House Republican leadership announced they had reached a deal to move forward on a new version of the CR, the American Relief Act, 2025 (<u>H.R. 10545</u>). This version does not include any debt limit provisions.
- This slimmed down, "clean" CR includes the following components:
 - Temporarily funding the government until March 14, 2025
 - A nine-month extension of Farm Bill authorities and programs
 - \$100 billion in disaster relief and assistance
 - \$10 billion in additional economic aid to farmers
 - Certain health care extensions, including a three-month extension of COVID-era Medicare telehealth flexibilities.
- House Democratic leadership, after not supporting the previous version of the CR that had the debt limit suspension attached to it, agreed to support this version of the CR. It then passed the House in a vote of <u>366-34-1</u>. 34 Republicans voted "Nay," while all voting Democrats except one (who voted "present") voted "Yea."
- The CR then passed the Senate later that evening in a vote of <u>85-11</u>.
- President Joe Biden <u>signed</u> the CR into law on December 21, 2024 averting a government shutdown.

2024 Farm Bill Status Update

- The 2018 Farm Bill expired last year, but Congress passed a temporary extension of the authorities in the Farm Bill through September 30, 2024. This temporary extension technically expired on September 30, as the recent CR that was passed into law did not include an extension of Farm Bill authorities.
- On November 18, 2024, Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) <u>introduced</u> the Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act (<u>S. 5335</u>). This bill is the Senate Democrats' 2024 Farm Bill for the 118th Congress.
 - House Agriculture Committee Chairman GT Thompson (R-PA) had <u>introduced</u> House Republicans' version of the 2024 Farm Bill, the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 (<u>H.R. 8467</u>) back on May 21.
- Chairwoman Stabenow <u>highlighted</u> that her Farm Bill includes \$39 billion in new resources beyond the Farm Bill baseline.
- Ultimately, congressional Republican and Democratic leadership decided that the end-ofyear CR would *not* include a full, new farm bill, and would instead contain a one-year reauthorization of key Farm Bill programs, authorizations, and authorities.
- As part of the one-year extension of the Farm Bill that was attached to the CR, Republican
 and Democratic leadership had also been negotiating economic assistance to farmers. After
 <u>difficult negotiations</u> that saw both sides <u>blame each other</u> for a prolonged lack of an
 agreement, a deal was eventually reached on about \$30 billion in assistance.
- The final version of the CR that was signed into law only extends current Farm Bill authorities through September 30, 2025. This means that Republicans will be able to lead efforts to reauthorize the Farm Bill in 2025 since they will have a trifecta over the White House, Senate, and House then. Any Farm Bill would need 60 votes in the Senate, meaning Senate Democrats will be able to somewhat influence the bill, but the bill will be drafted by conservative lawmakers.

Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)



House Agriculture Committee Chairman GT Thompson (R-PA)

- On December 7, 2024, the House and Senate Armed Services Committees released the conferenced <u>text</u> and <u>explanatory statement</u> of the FY25 National Defense Authorization Act (<u>H.R. 5009</u>) following months of negotiations.
- The bill authorizes \$895.2 billion in topline spending, including \$849.9 billion for the Department of Defense (DoD).
 - The final topline adheres to the funding levels established in the Fiscal Responsibility Act, rejecting the Senate's proposed \$25 billion budget increase.
- As one of the last legislative vehicles expected to pass this year, members looked to attach additional standalone legislation to the NDAA, such as:
 - The BIOSECURE Act, which would prohibit federal funding for entities that use certain Chinese biotechnology providers
 - A provision that would have imposed notification requirements on outbound investments in critical sectors
 - Neither measure was included in the final NDAA.
- On December 11, 2024, the House passed the legislation on a vote of <u>281-140</u>, with 81 Democrats joining 200 Republicans in support of the legislation. A bloc of Democrats opposed the bill on the floor, citing a provision that would limit access to gender-affirming care.
- On December 18, 2024, the Senate passed the FY25 NDAA in a bipartisan vote of <u>85-14</u>, teeing up the bill for signature into law for the 64th consecutive year.



SASC Chair Jack Reed (D-RI)



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Notable provisions include:

Artificial Intelligence	Provisions to improve DoD's AI workforce posture, develop use cases for artificial intelligence AI-enabled biotechnology for national security, and establish a center of excellence focused on human usability of AI systems, among others.
Cybersecurity	Requires DoD to develop data use strategies, produce tabletop exercise packages for members of the defense industrial base, improve the cybersecurity DoD of cloud computing networks, and establish a risk framework for foreign mobile applications of concern, among others.
Critical Technologies	Provides additional funding for the removal and replacement of Chinese telecommunications network equipment, requires DoD to invest in quantum scaling, and requires the intelligence community to enhance U.S. capabilities to detect foreign biosecurity threats, among others.
China-related Provisions	Prohibits DoD contracts to companies that contract with lobbyists for certain Chinese companies, prohibits DoD procurement of Chinese LiDAR technologies, prohibits procurement of semiconductors from companies that supply Huawei, and restricts DoD research funding to universities and researchers that work with certain Chinese academic institutions, among others.

The legislation also includes:

- Increases in pay for junior enlisted service members by 14.5%; all others by 4.5%, among other provisions supporting childcare, housing, health care and civilian workforce benefits as part of the recommendations from the bipartisan Quality of Life panel.
- Authorizes \$142.8 billion in funding for research, development, testing, and evaluation and \$17.5 billion for science and technology programs.

The bill retains some controversial policy provisions including:

- Extending a one-year hiring freeze on hiring for diversity, equity, and inclusion positions within the Department of Defense.
- Restricting TRICARE coverage for medical intervention that can result in sterilization for military dependents under the age of 18 that are diagnosed with gender dysphoria.
- Prohibiting funding for the teaching of "critical race theory" at military service academies and DoD schools.

- The bill also includes a variety of health care provisions, including some related to biotechnology and biosecurity:
 - Establish a pilot program on the development of near-term use cases and demonstration of AI toward biotechnology applications for national security.
 - Require DoD leaders to submit a biotechnology roadmap to Congress.
 - Require the DoD Secretary to monitor for beneficiary access to specialty behavioral health care under TRICARE Prime and establishes when the Secretary is required to expand behavioral health accreditation standards.
 - Direct the Military Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Vulnerability Working Group to develop plans and coordinate with pharmaceutical manufacturers to secure the pharmaceutical supply chain for the DoD.
 - Direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to report to Congress on active pharmaceutical ingredients, pharmaceutical products, and manufacturing materials in high-risk foreign countries. The provisions would also direct the Under Secretary to report to Congress with an analysis of supply chain vulnerabilities based on the aforementioned report.
 - Require the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) to report within 90 days of enactment to Congress on China's biotechnology sector and its capabilities. The report would include how the People's Republic of China is supporting the biotechnology sector to "gain superiority" via foreign direct investments, talent recruiting, subsidies, and any other tactics.
 - Require the DNI to, within 120 days of enactment, take a series of steps to standardize (1) the use of biological data by the intelligence community, and (2) the ability of the intelligence community to detect foreign adversary threats relating to biological data.

Adam Schiff and Andy Kim sworn in as U.S. Senators

- On December 9, 2024, former Reps. Adam Schiff (D-CA) and Andy Kim (D-NJ) were sworn in as the two newest U.S. Senators.
- Sen. Schiff will finish the final month of the late Sen. Dianne Feinstein's (D-CA) term, which was temporarily filled for the last 14 months by now former Sen. Laphonza Butler (D-CA).
- Sen. Kim will finish the final month of former Sen. Bob Menendez's (D-NJ) term, which was temporarily filled for the last four months by now former Sen. George Helmy (D-NJ).
 - Former Sen. Helmy's 107 days as a senator was the shortest term of a senator since former Sen. Dean Barkley (I-MN), who served for 60 days when he was the caretaker of the late Sen. Paul Wellstone's (D-MN) seat.
- Sens. Schiff and Kim both also won full six-year terms in the November elections – they will begin those respective full terms on January 3, 2025, when the 119th Congress begins.





Sen. Schiff (top) and Sen. Kim (bottom) taking the oath of office in the U.S. Senate

2025 Congressional Schedules for the 119th Congress

2025 House Calendar

- On December 4, 2024, House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) and House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-LA) <u>released</u> the 2025 calendar for the U.S. House of Representatives.
- This will be a busy year for the House, as the House will be in session for 33 weeks in 2025, with a total of 136 legislative days.
- By comparison, in 2024, the House was in session for 28 weeks, with a total of just 110 legislative days.
- Speaker Johnson and Majority Leader Scalise have set an ambitious and busy schedule for 2025 as they prepare for an active legislative year to advance President-elect Trump's priorities in the upcoming Republican trifecta of the House, Senate, and White House.
- The busiest in-session stretch will come from October 7 to November 6, when the House will be in session for five straight weeks.
- The House will take its traditional August recess.

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2025 Senate Calendar

- On December 5, 2024, current Senate Minority Whip, and incoming Senate Majority Leader, John Thune (R-SD) released the 2025 calendar for the U.S. Senate.
- The Senate plans to be in session for 37 weeks in 2025, with a total of 179 legislative days, a period longer than each year of the previous Republican Senate majority from 2015 to 2020.
- By comparison, in 2024, the Senate was in session for 29 weeks, with a total of just 102 legislative days.
- A notable feature of the new Senate calendar is how many session Fridays there are. In the past, the Senate has usually ended its weeks on Thursdays even when that respective Friday is listed as a session day. For 2025 though, Sen. Thune has said he is serious about keeping the Senate in session on Fridays of session weeks, especially during the first half of the year when the Senate will be holding a high volume of confirmation votes.
- The Senate will still take its traditional August recess.

2025 United States Senate

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119th Congress Congressional Party Leadership

House Republican Leadership – 119th Congress

- On November 13, 2024, the House Republican Conference held their leadership elections for the 119th Congress. Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) won the internal conference nomination to be speaker via a voice vote.
- Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-LA) and Majority Whip Tom Emmer (R-MN) were also re-elected to their respective roles by a voice vote.
- Current House Republican Conference Secretary Lisa McClain (R-MI) was elected as the new Conference Chair over Rep. Kat Cammack (R-FL), and Rep. Blake Moore (R-UT) was re-elected as House Republican Vice Chair.
- Additionally, Rep. Kevin Hern (R-OK) was elected as the Policy Chair of the House Republican Conference, unseating the incumbent Rep. Gary Palmer (R-AL), and Rep. Erin Houchin (R-IN) was elected as Conference Secretary over Rep. Mark Alford (R-MO).
- Furthermore, Rep. Richard Hudson (R-NC) was re-elected to another term as the Chair of the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC).

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House Speaker Mike Johnson





Majority Leader Steve Scalise

House Majority Whip Tom Emmer



Conference Chair Lisa McClain





Conference Vice Chair Blake Moore 29

House Democratic Leadership – 119th Congress

- On November 19, 2024, House Democrats held their leadership elections.
- Their elections were drama-free and straightforward, as the top five House Democratic leaders all ran unopposed for their positions, and were thus re-elected to their respective posts.
- House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), Minority Whip Katherine Clark (D-MA), and House Democratic Caucus Chairman Pete Aguilar (D-CA) will all maintain their positions in the 119th Congress.
- Caucus Vice Chairman Ted Lieu (D-CA) and Assistant Democratic Leader Joe Neguse (D-CO) both kept their spots as well.
- While Democrats did not win the House, party leadership in the chamber did not face significant pushback since most of the caucus' vulnerable incumbents held on in their respective races, and House Democrats actually picked up a net of one seat in the November elections, as the House went from 221-214 to 220-215.





Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries Minority Whip Katherine Clark

Caucus Chair Pete Aguilar





Caucus Vice Chair Ted Lieu

Assistant Democratic Leader Joe Neguse

Senate Republican Leadership – 119th Congress

- Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) previously announced he will step down from his leadership post at the end of the 118th Congress. He has been the top Senate Republican since January 2007, so his decision to step down created an opening at the top of the Senate Republican Conference for the first time in 17 years.
- On November 13, 2024, Senate Republicans held their leadership elections for the 119th Congress.
- For the new Senate Republican Leader, the candidates were Republican Whip John Thune (R-SD), former Republican Whip John Cornyn (R-TX), and Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL). On the first ballot, Sen. Thune received 23 votes, Sen. Cornyn received 15 votes, and Sen. Scott received 13 votes; Sen. Scott was eliminated. Sen. Thune was then elected as the new Senate Republican Leader on the second ballot by a vote of 29-24. He will become the new Senate Majority Leader in January.
- The rest of Senate Republican leadership in the new year will consist of: Republican Whip/Assistant Majority Leader John Barrasso (R-WY), Republican Conference Chair Tom Cotton (R-AR), Republican Policy Committee Chair Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Republican Conference Vice Chair James Lankford (R-OK), and National Republican Senatorial Committee Chair Tim Scott (R-SC).







Incoming Senate Majority Leader John Thune Incoming Assistant Majority Leader John Barrasso

Incoming Republican Conference Chair Tom Cotton





Incoming Republican Conference Vice Chair James Lankford



Incoming RSC Chair Tim Scott

Senate Democratic Leadership – 119th Congress

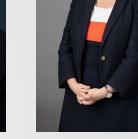
- On December 3, 2024, Senate Democrats, who will soon be in the minority for the first time since January 2021, held their leadership elections for the 119th Congress.
- Following the internal caucus elections, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), who will be Minority Leader in January 2025, <u>announced</u> the Senate Democratic Leadership team for the next session of Congress.
- Leadership is largely staying the same, with Sen. Schumer remaining as the Democratic Leader, and Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL) staying on as the Democratic Whip; these are the top two positions in Democratic leadership, respectively.
- Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) is replacing the retiring Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) as the Chair of the Steering and Policy Committee, which is the #3 Senate Democrat.
- Additionally, Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ) was elected as the new #4 Senate Democrat, in a newly created position titled "Chair of the Strategic Communications Committee."
- Overall, there will be 11 Senators in Democratic leadership for the 119th Congress.



Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer



Dick Durbin



Steering and Policy Committee Chair Amy Klobuchar



Strategic Communications Committee Chair Cory Booker



Conference Vice Chair Mark Warner



Conference Vice Chair Elizabeth Warren

119th Congress Congressional Committees



Privileged & Confidential

119th Congress House Committees

House Committee Ratios Set for the 119th Congress

- On December 13, 2024, House Republican leadership and House Democratic leadership announced they had reached a deal on the standing committee ratios for the 119th Congress.
- These ratios are generally consistent with those of the 118th Congress, though there are a few small changes in overall committee sizes.
- The House Committees on Appropriations, Energy and Commerce (E&C), Financial Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Ways and Means will all grow by one seat each on both sides of the aisle.
- The Armed Services Committee will decrease proportionally by one seat, while the Education and the Workforce Committee will decrease proportionally by four seats on both sides of the aisle.



House Ways and Means Committee Room

House Committee Ratios Set for the 119th Congress

House Committee	Republican (Majority) Seats	Democratic (Minority) Seats
Appropriations	36	28
Energy and Commerce	30	24
Financial Services	30	24
Ways and Means	26	19
Agriculture	29	25
Armed Services	30	27
Budget	21	16
Education and the Workforce	21	16
Foreign Affairs	28	25

Yellow highlight = exclusive committee **GREEN** = the Committee added seats **RED** = the Committee lost seats

House Committee Ratios Set for the 119th Congress

House Committee	Republican (Majority) Seats	Democratic (Minority) Seats
Homeland Security	18	15
Judiciary	25	19
Natural Resources	25	20
Oversight and Accountability	26	21
Science, Space, and Technology	22	18
Small Business	15	12
Transportation and Infrastructure	36	31
Veterans' Affairs	14	11

GREEN = the Committee added seats **RED** = the Committee lost seats

119th Congress House Committee Leadership

House Republicans Set Their Committee Leadership for the 119th Congress

- During the week of December 8, 2024, the House Republican Steering Committee met to elect Chairs for the 17 standing committees for the 119th Congress.
- Chairs were re-appointed to their current chairmanships.
- Five committees will have new Chairmen in the 119th Congress:
 - Energy and Commerce: Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY)
 - Financial Services: Rep. French Hill (R-AR)
 - Education and the Workforce: Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI)
 - Foreign Affairs: Rep. Brian Mast (R-FL)
 - Science, Space, and Technology: Rep. Brian Babin (R-TX)
- Rep. Guthrie defeated Rep. Bob Latta (R-OH) for the E&C gavel, and Rep. Walberg defeated Rep. Burgess Owens (R-UT) for the top spot on the Education and the Workforce Committee.
- For Financial Services, Rep. Hill beat Rep. Andy Barr (R-KY), and for Foreign Affairs, Rep. Mast defeated Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO) in an upset.



House Appropriations Committee Room

House Democrats Set Their Committee Leadership for the 119th Congress

- The House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee recently met to elect new Democratic Ranking Members for contested races.
- 13 Chairs were re-appointed to their current chairmanships.
- Four standing committees will have new Ranking Members in the 119th Congress:
 - Agriculture: Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN)
 - Judiciary: Rep. Jamie Raskin (D-MD)
 - Natural Resources: Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA)
 - Oversight and Accountability: Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA)
- Rep. Craig and Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA) successfully challenged incumbent Agriculture Committee Ranking Member David Scott (D-GA) at the Steering Committee. Rep. Craig then won the Ranking Member position in a 121-91 caucus-wide vote over Rep. Costa.
- For Natural Resources, after Rep. Huffman and Rep. Melanie Stansbury (D-NM) announced challenges to his position, current Ranking Member Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ) withdrew from his re-election bid. Before a full caucus vote, Rep. Stansbury dropped out, making Rep. Huffman the new Ranking Member.
- Rep. Raskin left his Oversight Committee Ranking Member position to become the new Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee. Reps. Connolly and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) were the two finalists to become the next Oversight Ranking Member. Rep. Connolly prevailed in a 131-84 caucus-wide vote.



House Energy and Commerce Committee Room

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Agriculture	Rep. Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-PA)	Rep. David Scott (D-GA)	Rep. Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-PA)	Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN)
Appropriations	Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)	Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)	Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)	Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
Armed Services	Rep. Mike Rogers (R-AL)	Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA)	Rep. Mike Rogers (R-AL)	Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA)
Budget	Rep. Jodey Arrington (R-TX)	Rep. Brendan Boyle (D-PA)	Rep. Jodey Arrington (R-TX)	Rep. Brendan Boyle (D-PA)

Yellow highlight = new Chair or Ranking Member

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Education and the Workforce	Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC)	Rep. Robert "Bobby" Scott (D-VA)	Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI)	Kep. Robert "Bobby" Scott (D-VA)
Energy and Commerce	Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)	(D VII) Kep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)	Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY)	(D VII) Kep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)
Financial Services	Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC)	Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA)	Rep. French Hill (R-AR)	Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA)

Yellow highlight = new Chair or Ranking Member

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Foreign Affairs	Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX)	Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-NY)	Rep. Brian Mast (R-FL)	Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-NY)
Homeland Security	Rep. Mark Green (R-TN)	Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-MS)	Rep. Mark Green (R-TN)	Rep. Bennie Thompson
Judiciary	Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH)	Rep. Jerry Nadler (D-NY)	Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH)	(D-MS)

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Natural Resources				
	Rep. Bruce Westerman (R-AR)	Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ)	Rep. Bruce Westerman (R-AR)	Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA)
Oversight and Accountability	Rep. James Comer (R-KY)	Rep. Jamie Raskin (D-MD)	Rep. James Comer (R-KY)	Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA)
Rules				
	Rep. Michael Burgess (R-TX)	Rep. Jim McGovern (D-MA)	Rep. Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA) Rep. Michelle Fischbach (R-MN) Rep. Nick Langworthy (R-NY)	Rep. Jim McGovern (D-MA)

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Science, Space, and Technology	Rep. Frank Lucas (R-OK)	Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)	Rep. Brian Babin (R-TX)	Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)
Small Business	Rep. Roger Williams (R-TX)	Rep. Nydia Velázquez (D-NY)	Rep. Roger Williams (R-TX)	Rep. Nydia Velázquez (D-NY)
Transportation and Infrastructure	Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO)	Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA)	Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO)	Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA)
Veterans' Affairs	Rep. Mike Bost (R-IL)	Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA)	Rep. Mike Bost (R-IL)	Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA)

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Ways and Means				
	Rep. Jason Smith (R-MO)	Rep. Richard Neal (D-MA)	Rep. Jason Smith (R-MO)	Rep. Richard Neal (D-MA)
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence				
	Rep. Michael Turner (R-OH)	Rep. Jim Himes (D-CT)	Rep. Michael Turner (R-OH)	Rep. Jim Himes (D-CT)
Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the U.S. and the Chinese Communist Party				
	Rep. John Moolenaar (R-MI)	Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL)	Rep. John Moolenaar (R-MI)	Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL)

119th Congress Senate Committees

Senate Republicans Set Committee Assignments for the 119th Congress

- On December 20, 2024, current Senate Republican Whip, and incoming Senate Majority Leader, Sen. John Thune (R-SD) <u>announced</u> the Senate Republican Conference committee assignments for the 119th Congress.
- These assignments have been officially ratified by the Senate Republican Conference, and will be ratified and adopted by the full Senate at the beginning of the 119th Congress in January.
- Senate Republicans are adding at least one additional member to each committee since they will be taking over the Senate majority on January 3, 2025.
- Senate Democratic leadership is expected to announce their caucus' committee assignments in the coming days.



Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee Room

Senate Republican Committee Seats for the 119th Congress

Senate Committee	Republican (Majority) Seats
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry	12
Appropriations	15
Armed Services	14
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	13
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	15
Energy and Natural Resources	11
Environment and Public Works	10
Finance	14
Foreign Relations	12
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP)	12

Senate Republican Committee Seats for the 119th Congress

Senate Committee	Republican (Majority) Seats
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (HSGAC)	8
Judiciary	12
Select Committee on Intelligence	9
Special Committee on Aging	7
Budget	11
Indian Affairs	6
Joint Economic Committee	6
Rules and Administration	9
Small Business	10
Veterans Affairs	10
Select Committee on Ethics	3

119th Congress Senate Committee Leadership

Senate Republican Committee Leadership for the 119th Congress

- On December 20, 2024, incoming Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD) <u>announced</u> the committee Chair assignments for Senate Republicans for the 119th Congress.
- The following Senators will be the new top Republicans of their respective committees. Out of the 20 standing committees, seven will have new Republican leadership next year:
 - Energy & Natural Resources: Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT)
 - Judiciary: Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA)
 - Select Committee on Intelligence: Sen. Ton Cotton (R-AR)
 - Special Committee on Aging: Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL)
 - Budget: Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC)
 - Joint Economic Committee: Sen. Eric Schmitt (R-MO)
 - Rules and Administration: Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
- Senate Republicans will hold committee gavels for the first time since early-January 2021.



U.S. Senate Committee Hearing Room

Senate Democratic Committee Leadership for the 119th Congress

- On December 18, 2024, outgoing Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) <u>announced</u> the committee Ranking Member assignments for Senate Democrats for the 119th Congress.
- The following Senators will be the new top Democrats of their respective committees. Out of the 20 standing committees, 10 will have new Democratic leadership next year:
 - Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry: Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
 - Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs: Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
 - Energy & Natural Resources: Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
 - Environment & Public Works: Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
 - Foreign Relations: Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
 - Aging: Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
 - Budget: Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
 - Rules & Administration: Sen. Alex Padilla (D-CA)
 - Small Business & Entrepreneurship: Sen. Ed Markey (D-MA)
 - Veterans' Affairs: Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)
- This will be the first time since early-January 2021 that Democrats will not lead Senate committees.



U.S. Senate Committee Hearing Room

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Aging	Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA)	Sen. Mike Braun (R-IN)	Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL)	Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry	Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)	Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)	Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)	Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
Appropriations	Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)	Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME)	Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME)	Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)
Armed Services	Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI)	Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS)	Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS)	Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI)

Yellow highlight = new GOP or Dem leader of Committee

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Banking, Housing, and Urban Development	Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH)	Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC)	Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC)	Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
Budget	Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)	Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA)	Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA)	Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX)	Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX)	Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA)

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Energy and Natural Resources	Sen. Joe Manchin (I-WV)	Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)	Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT)	Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
Environment and Public Works		Corr Shellow Macro Corrito (B	Corr Shellow Magne Corrito	Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse
	Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE)	Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R- WV)	Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)	(D-RI)
Ethics				
	Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE)	Sen. James Lankford (R-OK)	Sen. James Lankford (R-OK)	Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE)

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Finance	Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR)	Sen. Mike Crapo (R-ID)	Sen. Mike Crapo (R-ID)	Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR)
Foreign Relations	Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD)	Sen. Jim Risch (R-ID)	Sen. Jim Risch (R-ID)	Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions	Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT)	Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA)	Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA)	Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT)
Homeland Security and Government Affairs	Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI)	Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY)	Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY)	Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI)

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Indian Affairs	Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI)	Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI)
Intelligence				
Judiciary	Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA)	Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL)	Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR)	Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA)
	Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL)	Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA)	Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL)

Committee	118 th Chair	118 th Ranking Member	119 th Chair	119 th Ranking Member
Rules and Administration	Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)	Sen. Deb Fischer (R-NE)	Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY)	Sen. Alex Padilla (D-CA)
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)	Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA)	Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA)	Sen. Ed Markey (D-MA)
Veterans' Affairs	Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT)	Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS)	Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS)	Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)

President-Elect Trump's White House and Administration Appointments

Announced White House Appointments – Senate Confirmation Not Required

President-elect Trump's key appointments to White House political positions that do not require Senate confirmation:



Susie Wiles Chief of Staff



Stephen Miller Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Homeland Security



James Blair Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislative, Political, and Public Affairs



Dan Scavino Deputy Chief of Staff



Taylor Budowich Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications and Personnel



Michael Waltz National Security Advisor



Tom Homan Border Czar



David Warrington White House Counsel



Elon Musk Department of Government Efficiency Co-Chair



Vivek Ramaswamy Department of Government Efficiency Co-Chair

Announced White House Appointments – Senate Confirmation Not Required

President-elect Trump's key appointments to White House political positions that do not require Senate confirmation:



Steven Cheung White House Communications Director



Karoline Leavitt White House Press Secretary



Alex Wong Principal Deputy National Security Advisor



Sebastian Gorka Deputy Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Counterterrorism



James Braid Director of the Office of Legislative Affairs



Alina Habba Counselor to the President



Brendan Carr Chair of the Federal Communications Commission



Andrew Ferguson Chair of the Federal Trade Commission



Kevin Hassett Director of the National Economic Council



Vince Haley Director of the Domestic Policy Council



Peter Navarro Senior Counselor to the President, Trade



David Sacks White House AI & Crypto Czar

Announced Trump Administration and Cabinet Nominees

President-elect Trump's key administration and cabinet nominees – these positions require Senate confirmation:



Sen. Marco Rubio Secretary of State



Scott Bessent Treasury Secretary



Pete Hegseth Defense Secretary



Pam Bondi Attorney General



Gov. Doug Burgum Interior Secretary



Brooke Rollins Agriculture Secretary



Howard Lutnik Commerce Secretary Arnold&Porter



Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer Labor Secretary



Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. HHS Secretary



Scott Turner HUD Secretary



Former Rep. Sean Duffy Transportation Secretary



Chris Wright Energy Secretary

Announced Trump Administration and Cabinet Nominees

President-elect Trump's key administration and cabinet nominees – these positions require Senate confirmation:



Linda McMahon Education Secretary



Former Rep. Doug Collins Veterans Affairs Secretary



Kristi Noem Homeland Security Secretary



Former Rep. Lee Zeldin EPA Administrator



Former Rep. Tulsi Gabbard Director of National Intelligence



Jamieson Greer U.S. Trade Representative



Rep. Elise StefanikU.S. Ambassador to the UNArnold & Porter



Former Sen. Kelly Loeffler Small Business Administrator



Russell Vought OMB Director



John Ratcliffe CIA Director



Dr. Mehmet Oz CMS Administrator



Dr. Martin Makary FDA Commissioner

Recess Appointments

- On November 10, 2024, President-elect Trump called on the next Senate Republican Majority Leader to embrace recess appointments, which would allow the president to bypass the Senate confirmation process.
- Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL) quickly weighed in saying he agrees 100% and will do "whatever it takes to get your nominations through as quickly as possible."
- Incoming Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD) did not rule out the possibility. Sen. Thune said, "all options are on the table" toward delivering on Trump's agenda "including recess appointments."
- Former Senate Republican Whip John Cornyn (R-TX) noted: "The Constitution expressly confers the power on the President to make recess appointments."
- It is unclear whether President-elect Trump is using his position of authority to send a message to Senate Republicans, or if he actually plans to use recess appointments for his administration.

Thank you

