



BGOV OnPoint

119th Congress

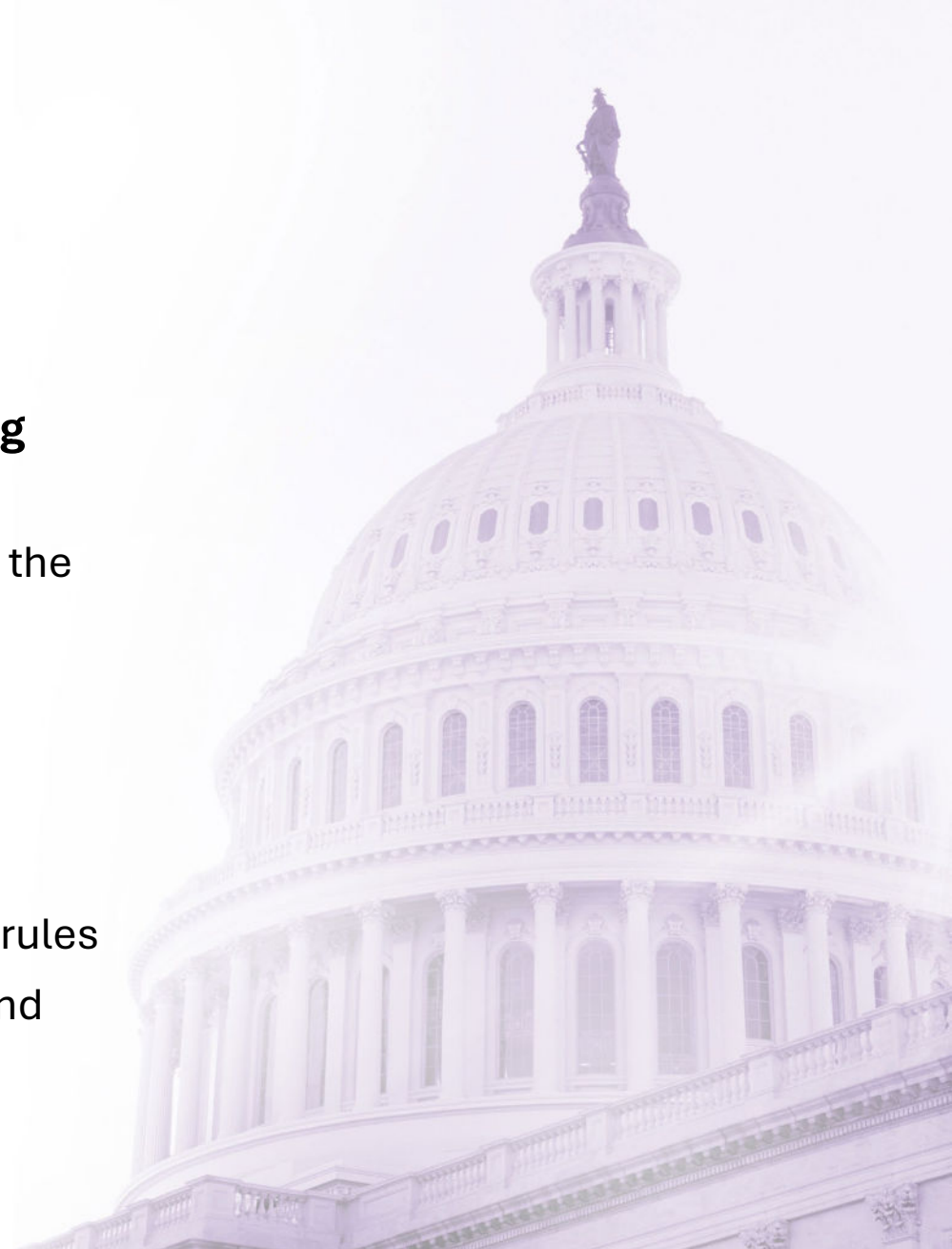
Committee Leaders

Updated Jan. 7, 2025

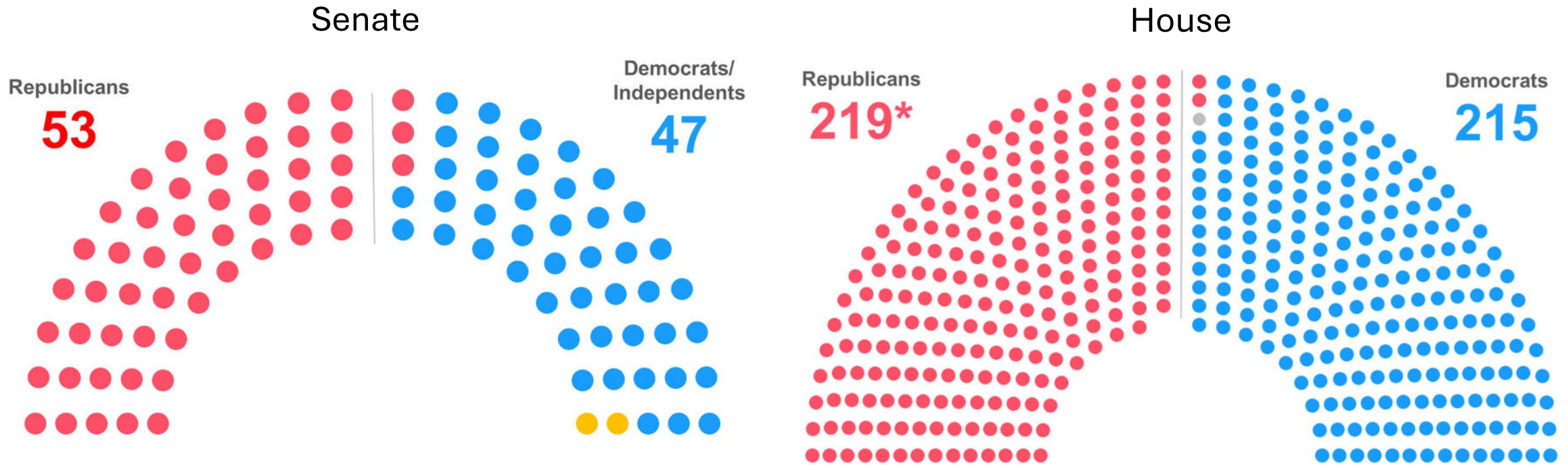
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About This Presentation

- ▶ **House and Senate committee leadership is mostly set**
- ▶ **Top spots on several key House panels changed following retirements, term limits, and challenges**
 - GOP conference term limits and retirements drove changes on the Republican side
 - New top Democrats successfully challenged some senior committee ranking members
- ▶ **Senate Republicans assume committee chairs**
 - Some GOP assignments shuffled due to retirements and party rules
 - Democrats filled openings on seven panels after retirements and election losses



Slim Majorities Grant GOP Control of Committee Chairs



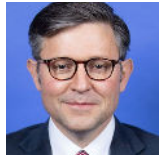
Notes: The yellow dots in the Senate graphic reflect independents who caucus with Democrats. The gray dot in the House graphic represents the seat previously held by Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.), who didn't take his seat in the 119th Congress. The balance of power will likely change later in January: Sen. JD Vance (R-Ohio) will resign before he's sworn in as vice president, while Reps. Mike Waltz (R-Fla.) and Elise Stefanik (R-N.Y.) have been named by Trump to take positions in his administration.

House Committees

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Party Leadership in 2025 to Remain Largely Unchanged

Republican Leadership



House Speaker:
Mike Johnson (La.)



Majority Leader:
Steve Scalise (La.)



Majority Whip:
Tom Emmer (Minn.)



Conference Chair:
Lisa McClain (Mich.)



Policy Committee Chair:
Kevin Hern (Okla.)

Democratic Leadership



Minority Leader:
Hakeem Jeffries (N.Y.)



Minority Whip:
Katherine Clark (Mass.)



Caucus Chair:
Pete Aguilar (Calif.)



**Policy & Communications
Committee Chair:**
Debbie Dingell (Mich.)

House Committee Leadership Set for 119th Congress

Committee	Republican Chair	Democratic Ranking Member
Agriculture	Glenn Thompson (Pa.)	Angie Craig (Minn.)
Appropriations	Tom Cole (Okla.)	Rosa DeLauro (Conn.)
Armed Services	Mike Rogers (Ala.)	Adam Smith (Wash.)
Budget	Jodey Arrington (Texas)	Brendan Boyle (Pa.)
Education & the Workforce	Tim Walberg (Mich.)	Bobby Scott (Va.)
Energy & Commerce	Brett Guthrie (Ky.)	Frank Pallone (N.J.)
Financial Services	French Hill (Ark.)	Maxine Waters (Calif.)
Foreign Affairs	Brian Mast (Fla.)	Gregory Meeks (N.Y.)
Homeland Security	Mark Green (Tenn.)	Bennie Thompson (Miss.)
Intelligence	Mike Turner (Ohio)	Jim Himes (Conn.)
Judiciary	Jim Jordan (Ohio)	Jamie Raskin (Md.)
Natural Resources	Bruce Westerman (Ark.)	Jared Huffman (Calif.)
Oversight & Accountability	James Comer (Ky.)	Gerry Connolly (Va.)
Science, Space, & Technology	Brian Babin (Texas)	Zoe Lofgren (Calif.)
Small Business	Roger Williams (Texas)	Nydia Velázquez (N.Y.)
Transportation & Infrastructure	Sam Graves (Mo.) — obtained waiver for 4th term	Rick Larsen (Wash.)
Veterans' Affairs	Mike Bost (Ill.)	Mark Takano (Calif.)
Ways & Means	Jason Smith (Mo.)	Richard Neal (Mass.)

Several New GOP Committee Chairs Have Taken Gavels



Energy & Commerce

- **Brett Guthrie (Ky.)** elected to lead [E&C panel](#); had chaired the Health subcommittee
- Replacing retired Chairwoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers (Wash.)
- Frank Pallone (N.J.) staying on as ranking member



Foreign Affairs

- **Brian Mast (Fla.)** won a crowded race to lead the full [committee](#); had chaired Oversight subcommittee
- Former Chairman Michael McCaul (Texas) didn't seek a waiver for a fourth term
- Ranking Democrat Gregory Meeks (N.Y.) returns to his spot in 2025



Education & Workforce

- **Tim Walberg (Mich.)** [won the race](#) to chair the committee in the 119th Congress
- Outgoing chair Virginia Foxx (N.C.) was limited by GOP conference rules
- Bobby Scott (Va.) returns as ranking member



Financial Services

- **French Hill (Ark.)** [defeated several challengers](#) for the Financial Services gavel; had chaired Digital Assets subcommittee
- Replacing retired Chairman Patrick McHenry (N.C.)
- Maxine Waters (Calif.) returns as panel's top Democrat



New Faces Replace Longtime Democrats Atop Committees



Agriculture

- **Angie Craig (Minn.)** [defeated](#) incumbent ranking member David Scott (Ga.), fellow challenger Jim Costa (Calif.) to serve as top Democrat
- Glenn Thompson (Pa.) serving another term as the panel's chairman



Natural Resources

- **Jared Huffman (Calif.)**, who had been ranking member on Water subcommittee, [defeated](#) Melanie Stansbury (N.M.) for top spot
- Huffman had challenged Raúl Grijalva (Ariz.), who endorsed Stansbury
- Bruce Westerman (Ark.) remains chairman



Judiciary

- **Jamie Raskin (Md.)** [ran uncontested](#) to be the panel's top Democrat after incumbent Jerry Nadler (N.Y.) dropped out
- Raskin's move opened spot on Oversight committee
- Jim Jordan (Ohio) returns as chairman



Oversight

- Longtime panel member **Gerry Connolly (Va.)** [elected by Democrats](#) to replace Raskin
- Defeated Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (N.Y.) in steering and full caucus meetings
- James Comer (Ky.) remains chairman



Note: Photos courtesy of House Clerk website.

Several Names Were in the Mix to Lead Rules Committee

House Rules Committee

- Chairman will be chosen by Speaker Mike Johnson, who may make his pick today
- New chair will follow Michael Burgess (Texas), who retired after the 118th Congress
- The Rules panel sets the terms for floor debate, a key step to advancing leadership's agenda
- Jim McGovern (Mass.) set to remain top Democrat



Michelle Fischbach (Minn.): Third in seniority on panel, serving since 2021



Chip Roy (Texas): House Freedom Caucus member, supports agreement to keep three hard-right members on the panel



Virginia Foxx (N.C.): Served as vice chair on the committee from 2013 to 2017



Pete Sessions (Texas): Served as Rules chair from 2013 to 2019, including start of Trump's first term



Nick Langworthy (N.Y.): Has been floated as a possible candidate, is eighth in seniority on committee

Note: Photos courtesy of House Clerk website.

Sources: Bloomberg Government reporting; "[House Republicans Jockey to Lead Diminished Rules Panel in 2025](#)," BGOV

Senate Committees

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Some New Faces in Senate Leadership

 **Republican Leadership** 



Majority Leader:
John Thune (S.D)



Majority Whip:
John Barrasso (Wyo.)



Conference Chair:
Tom Cotton (Ark.)

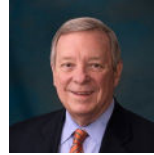


Policy Chair:
Shelley Moore Capito
(W. Va.)

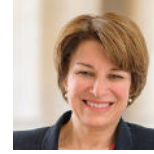
 **Democratic Leadership** 



Minority Leader:
Chuck Schumer (N.Y.)



Minority Whip:
Dick Durbin (Ill.)



Policy Chair:
Amy Klobuchar (Minn.)



Communications Chair:
Cory Booker (N.J.)

Senate Committee Leadership Set for 119th Congress

Committee	Republican Chair	Ranking Democrat
Aging	<i>Rick Scott (Fla.)</i>	<i>Kirsten Gillibrand (N.Y.)</i>
Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry	John Boozman (Ark.)	<i>Amy Klobuchar (Minn.)</i>
Appropriations	Susan Collins (Maine)	Patty Murray (Wash.)
Armed Services	Roger Wicker (Miss.)	Jack Reed (R.I.)
Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs	Tim Scott (S.C.)	<i>Elizabeth Warren (Mass.)</i>
Budget	<i>Lindsey Graham (S.C.)</i>	<i>Jeff Merkley (Ore.)</i>
Commerce, Science, & Transportation	Ted Cruz (Texas)	Maria Cantwell (Wash.)
Energy & Natural Resources	<i>Mike Lee (Utah)</i>	<i>Martin Heinrich (N.M.)</i>
Environment & Public Works	Shelley Moore Capito (W.Va.)	<i>Sheldon Whitehouse (R.I.)</i>
Finance	Mike Crapo (Idaho)	Ron Wyden (Ore.)
Foreign Relations	Jim Risch (Idaho)	<i>Jeanne Shaheen (N.H.)</i>
Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions	Bill Cassidy (La.)	Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.)
Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs	Rand Paul (Ky.)	Gary Peters (Mich.)
Indian Affairs	Lisa Murkowski (Alaska)	Brian Schatz (Hawaii)
Intelligence	<i>Tom Cotton (Ark.)</i>	Mark Warner (Va.)
Judiciary	<i>Chuck Grassley (Iowa)</i>	Dick Durbin (Ill.)
Rules & Administration	<i>Mitch McConnell (Ky.)</i>	<i>Alex Padilla (Calif.)</i>
Small Business & Entrepreneurship	Joni Ernst (Iowa)	<i>Ed Markey (Mass.)</i>
Veterans' Affairs	Jerry Moran (Kan.)	<i>Richard Blumenthal (Conn.)</i>

Top Committee Spots Shuffled as Republicans Assumed Majority



Energy & Natural Resources

- Mike Lee (Utah) — who had been the top Republican on the Public Lands Subcommittee — is now chairman of the full panel
- Ranking member in the 118th Congress John Barrasso (Wyo.) now serves as majority whip



Judiciary

- Chuck Grassley (Iowa) moves from ranking Republican on the Budget panel to resume his former gavel at Senate Judiciary
- Has two years remaining on his term as chairman under GOP conference rules



Intelligence

- Tom Cotton (Ark.) takes the panel's gavel as the most senior returning member
- Ranking member in the 118th Congress Marco Rubio (Fla.) named as president-elect Donald Trump's pick for Secretary of State



Budget

- Lindsey Graham (S.C.) — the top Republican on Judiciary in the 118th Congress — replaces Grassley to take Budget gavel
- Will have important role in overseeing budget reconciliation process in the Senate



Rules & Administration

- Former GOP leader Mitch McConnell (Ky.) takes Rules gavel, giving him an important role shaping Senate floor procedures
- Will also chair the Appropriations panel's Defense Subcommittee



Aging

- Rick Scott (Fla.) replaces retired top Republican Mike Braun (Ind.), who didn't seek reelection

Note: Photos courtesy of lawmaker websites.

Retirements Created Openings for Top Democratic



Agriculture

- Amy Klobuchar (Minn.) replaces retired former chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (Mich.), who didn't seek reelection to the 119th Congress
- Left spot as the top Democrat on the Senate Rules & Administration panel



Rules & Administration

- Alex Padilla (Calif.) chosen to replace Klobuchar as the top Democrat on the committee



Environment & Public Works

- Sheldon Whitehouse (R.I.) moves from chairing Budget panel to become EPW ranking member
- Replaces retired Sen. Tom Carper (Del.)



Budget

- Jeff Merkley (Ore.) serves as ranking member on the committee



Foreign Relations

- Jeanne Shaheen (N.H.) selected as the panel's top Democrat following retirement of incumbent Ben Cardin (Md.)
- Left opening atop the Senate Small Business panel



Small Business

- Ed Markey (Mass.) replaces Shaheen on the committee

Note: Photos courtesy of lawmaker websites.

Other Democrats Replaced Defeated Incumbents, Retirees



Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs

- Longtime banking industry critic Elizabeth Warren (Mass.) is the panel's top Democrat
- Chairman in the 118th Congress, Sherrod Brown (Ohio), lost reelection to Republican Bernie Moreno



Energy & Natural Resources

- Martin Heinrich (N.M) replaces retiring committee chairman Joe Manchin (I-W.Va.) as the panel's ranking member
- Heinrich didn't hold a gavel on any committee in the 118th Congress



Veterans' Affairs

- Richard Blumenthal (Conn.) is committee's ranking member
- Former chairman Jon Tester (Mont.) lost his reelection bid for a fourth term to Republican Tim Sheehy



Aging

- Kirsten Gillibrand (N.Y.) chosen to replace Pennsylvania's Bob Casey atop the special committee
- Casey lost his race against Republican Dave McCormick

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