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118th Congress: Outlook for Congressional and Committee Leadership Selections

Client Alert | November 9, 2022

Within weeks after the mid-term elections, the 118th Congress-elect will start the process for selecting members to serve in House and Senate leadership and in the top positions on congressional committees—the powerful committee chairs and ranking members.

Congressional leadership sets the agendas in the House and Senate, including determining which bills come to the floor. How the leadership shakes out may also illustrate the power dynamics inside the political parties, including the extent to which the moderate or progressive/conservative wings of the parties will influence the legislative agendas, which could have a profound impact for the next two years on companies and industries.

Just like congressional leadership, committee chairs also enjoy agenda-setting power at the committee level. Members of Congress chairing the committee have their own priorities and projects of interest within the committee's jurisdiction, which play out in what bills receive committee votes and what hearings a committee holds. Therefore, the assignment of committee chairs often indicates the legislative priorities of key committees in both the House and Senate. The ranking members are important because they speak for their party on the committee and often can influence the legislative agenda as well.

Below we set out how congressional and committee leadership in the Senate and the House are determined. That discussion is followed by our best take on what party and committee leadership will look like in the 118th Congress.

Procedures: Congressional Leadership

Procedurally, here is how the party leaders in Congress are selected:

Senate

- The **party leaders**, **whips, and other positions (e.g., policy committee and campaign committee chairs)** of each party are elected by a majority vote of all the senators of their party assembled in a conference or a caucus via secret ballot. The practice has been to choose the leader for a two-year term at the beginning of each Congress.[1]

House of Representatives

- **Speaker of the House** is elected by the *full* House on the first day of a new Congress in a roll call vote. Customarily, the caucus or conference of each major party first elects a candidate at early organizational meetings via secret ballot. When the new Congress convenes, each party places the name of its candidate in nomination, and the majority party's candidate is typically elected on a party line

Related People

Michael D. Bopp

Alex Xiao

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vote.[2]Depending on the margin that the majority party holds in the House, the member running for Speaker may need to come to a compromise with certain members of her own party, especially when the margin is small. Such compromise often manifests as part of the House rule-setting at the beginning of each Congress.

- **Majority Leader/Minority Leader** is elected by secret ballot of the majority/minority party's caucus or conference in organizational meetings prior to the start of a new Congress.[3]

- **Party Whips** are elected by each party caucus at early organizational meetings in a secret ballot.[4]

Procedures: Committee Leadership Assignment

Senate[5]

- Seniority generally dictates the selection of committee leadership.

- Once committee ratios have been determined (based on the ratio of each party in the full Senate), Senators provide committee preferences to their leadership. Leadership then makes committee assignments and generally attempts to accommodate preferences to the extent possible.

- Generally, with exceptions, a Senator may serve as chair or ranking member for no more than one committee at a time. Therefore, when a Senator has seniority in two committees, she may choose one committee to lead.

- The Republican Conference limits service as the chair or ranking member of a committee to three terms, or six years in each position. The Democratic Caucus does not impose term limits on committee leadership.

House of Representatives[6]

- House rules provide that each party caucus or conference determines its members' committee assignments.[7]

- For House Republicans, a steering committee composed of allies of Republican leadership determines the assignment of committee chairs and ranking members.

- Committee leadership for Democrats is generally secured by active campaigns amongst colleagues.

- The congressional Democratic Caucus allows elections when two or more members compete for the chair or ranking member position, the outcome of which is determined by the entire House Democratic Caucus via secret ballot.

- The congressional Republican Caucus does not allow elections. When two or more Members compete for the top Republican spot on a committee, a steering committee under the tight control of party leaders decides who takes the position.

- The Republican Conference limits service as the chair or ranking minority member of a committee to three terms, or six years (the same limitation adopted by Senate Republicans). Also, like the Senate, the Democratic Conference does not impose leadership term limits.

- Both House Democrats and Republicans have steering committees that help guide the legislative process and assign caucus members to committees.

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- For House Democrats, membership on the steering committee is governed by the Rules of the Democratic Caucus. Such Rules for the 117th Congress provides that the committee shall include high-ranking members of the Democratic Caucus (i.e. the Speaker and the party leaders), certain powerful committee chairs (e.g. Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means), and regional and other representatives of the Democratic Caucus.[8]

- For House Republicans, membership on the steering committee is smaller in size but constituted by similar ranks, including high-ranking members of the Republican Caucus (i.e. the Speaker and the party leaders), the chair of a standing committee when the steering committee is considering members for election to or removal from such standing committee, and regional or other representatives of the Republican Caucus.[9]

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[1] *See* The First Day of a New Congress: A Guide to Proceedings on the Senate Floor, Congressional Research Service (December 22, 2020), at 3 https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/RS/RS20722.

[2] *See* Electing the Speaker of the House of Representatives: Frequently Asked Questions, Congressional Research Service (September 22, 2022), at 1-3 https://sgp.fas.org/crs/misc/R44243.pdf.

[3] *See* Party Leaders in the House: Election, Duties, and Responsibilities, Congressional Research Service (November 5, 2018), at 2 https://sgp.fas.org/crs/misc/RS20881.pdf.

[4] *See Id.* at 3.

[5] *See* Rules Governing Senate Committee and Subcommittee Assignment Procedures, Congressional Research Service (June 3, 2021), at 1-2 https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R46806/3.

[6] Unless otherwise noted, for the source of the content under this title, *see* Party Leaders in the House: Election, Duties, and Responsibilities (November 5, 2018) at 1-3 https://sgp.fas.org/crs/misc/RS20881.pdf.

[7] Rules of the House of Representatives, 117th Congress, R. 10, cl. 5.

[8] *See* Rules of the Democratic Caucus House Democrats, House Democrats, https://www.dems.gov/rules-of-the-democratic-caucus.

[9] *See* Conference Rules of the 117th Congress, House GOP, https://www.gop.gov/conference-rules-of-the-117th-congress/.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND RANKING MEMBERS

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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: LEADERSHIP

HOUSE WITH REPUBLICAN MAJORITY

GOP Leadership Election *11/15/2022 (tentative)*

Title	118th Congress Leadership	Position Held at 117th Congress	Notes
Speaker of the House	Kevin McCarthy (R-CA)	House Minority Leader	We expect McCarthy to become Speaker if GOP wins House Majority
Majority Leader	Steve Scalise (R-LA)	House Minority Whip	We expect Scalise to become Majority Leader if GOP wins House Majority
Majority Whip Open Race	Candidate #1 Tom Emmer (R-MN)	National Republican Congressional Committee Chair	Reported to have expressed interests in running, likely a toss-up between him and Banks
	Candidate #2 Jim Banks (R-IN)	Republican Study Committee Chair	Reported to have expressed interests in running, likely a toss-up between him and Emmer
	Candidate #3 Drew Ferguson (R-GA)	Chief Deputy Whip	to have expressed interests in running; least possible as McCarthy has signaled that he doesn't support Ferguson

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Dem Leadership Election	*After Thanksgiving (tentative)*		
Minority Leader Open Race	Candidate #1 Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY)	House Democratic Caucus Chair	Assuming House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) and House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn (D-SC) do not seek re-election in the House Leadership, Jeffries is the top contender
	Candidate #2 Adam Schiff (D-NY)	House Intelligence Committee Chair	Schiff is reported to have expressed interests in Dem leadership but trailing Jeffries
Minority Whip Open Race	Candidate #1 Katherine Clark (D-MA)	Assistant Speaker	Reported to have expressed interests in running for Minority Whip
	Candidate #2 Pramila Jayapal (D-WA)	Chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus	Reported to have expressed interests in running for Minority Whip

HOUSE WITH DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY			
Dem Leadership Election	*After Thanksgiving (tentative)*		
Title	**118th Congress Leadership**	**Position Held at 117th Congress**	**Notes**
Speaker of the House	Candidate #1 Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY)	House Democratic Caucus Chair	Assuming House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) and

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			House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn (D-SC) do not seek re-election in the House Leadership, Jeffries is the top contender
	Candidate #2 Adam Schiff (D-NY)	House Intelligence Committee Chair	Schiff is reported to have expressed interests in Dem leadership but trailing Jeffries
Majority Leader Open Race	Candidate #1 Katherine Clark (D-MA)	Assistant Speaker	Reported to have expressed interests in running for the #2 job at House Democratic Caucus
	Candidate #2 Pramila Jayapal (D-WA)	Chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus	Reported to have expressed interests in running for the #2 job at House Democratic Caucus
Majority Whip Open Race	**OPEN**	N/A	Dems have little chance to keep the majority in the House so unclear who will be the contender
GOP Leadership Election	*11/15/22 (tentative)*		
Minority Leader	Kevin McCarthy (R-CA)	House Minority Leader	We expect McCarthy to stay as the #1 Republican in the House
Minority Whip	Steve Scalise (R-LA)	House Minority Whip	We expect Scalise to stay as the #2 Republican in the House

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U.S. SENATE: LEADERSHIP

SENATE WITH REPUBLICAN MAJORITY			
Title	**118th Congress Leadership**	**Position Held at 117th Congress**	**Notes**
Majority Leader	Mitchell McConnell (R-KY)	Senate Minority Leader	We expect McConnell to stay as the #1 Republican in the Senate
Majority Whip	John Thune (R-SD)	Senate Minority Whip	We expect Thune to stay as the #2 Republican in the Senate
Minority Leader	Chuck Schumer (D-NY)	Senate Majority Leader	We expect Schumer to stay as the #1 Democrat in the Senate
Minority Whip	Dick Durbin (D-IL)	Senate Majority Whip	We expect Durbin to stay as the #2 Democrat in the Senate

SENATE WITH DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY			
Title	**118th Congress Leadership**	**Position Held at 117th Congress**	**Notes**
Majority Leader	Chuck Schumer (D-NY)	Senate Majority Leader	We expect Schumer to stay as the #1 Democrat in the Senate
Majority Whip	Dick Durbin (D-IL)	Senate Majority Whip	We expect Durbin to

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			stay as the #2 Democrat in the Senate
Minority Leader	Mitchell M cConnell (R-KY)	Senate Minority Leader	We expect Mc Connell to stay as the #1 Re publican in the Senate
Minority Whip	John Thune (R-SD)	Senate Minority Whip	We expect Thune to stay as the #2 Re publican in the Senate

SENATE CHAIR / RANKING MEMBER IF REPUB LICAN M AJORITY			
Committe e	**118th Congress Chair**	**117th Congress Ranking Member**	**Notes**
Aging	**Mike Braun (R-IN)**	**Tim Scott (R-SC)**	Tim Scott is expected to Chair Banking; Braun has seniority
Agricultu re	John Boozman (R-AR)	John Boozman (R-AR)	
Appropri ations	**Susan Collins (R-ME)**	**Richard Shelby (R-AL)**	Shelby not seeking re-election; Collins has seniority
Armed Services	**Roger Wicker (R-MS)**	**Jim Inhofe (R-OK)**	Inhofe not seeking re-election; Wicker has seniority
Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs	**Tim Scott (R-SC)**	**Pat Toomey (R-PA)**	Toomey not seeking re-election; Scott has seniority and is expected to Chair Banking in lieu of

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			Aging, where he was Ranking Member in the 117th Congress
Budget	Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	
Commerce	**Ted Cruz (R-TX)**	**Roger Wicker (R-MS)**	Wicker to Chair Armed Services; Thune is expected to be Whip; Blunt not seeking re-election; Cruz is next in line
Energy and Natural Resources	John Barrasso (R-WY)	John Barrasso (R-WY)	
Environment and Public Works	Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)	Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)	
Ethics	James Lankford (R-OK)	James Lankford (R-OK)	If Paul chooses HELP and Lankford is Chair of Homeland Security, then McConnell would appoint a new Ethics Chair
Finance	Mike Crapo (R-ID)	Mike Crapo (R-ID)	
Foreign Relations	James Risch (R-ID)	Jim Risch (R-ID)	
HELP	***Rand Paul (R-KY), Bill Cassidy (R-LA)**	**Richard Burr (R-NC)**	Burr not seeking re-election; if Paul chooses Homeland Security and assuming Collins chooses Appropriations, Cassidy is next in line
Homeland	***Rand Paul (R-**	**Rob Portman**	Portman not

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Security	**KY), *James Lankford (R-OK)**	**(R-OH)**	seeking re-election; if Paul chooses HELP, Lankford gets Homeland
Indian Affairs	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	
Intelligence	Marco Rubio (R-FL)	Marco Rubio (R-FL)	
International Narcotics Control	John Cornyn (R-TX)	John Cornyn (R-TX)	
Judiciary	Chuck Grassley (R-IA)	Chuck Grassley (R-IA)	
Rules and Administration	**Deb Fischer (R-NE)**	**Roy Blunt (R-MO)**	Blunt not seeking re-election; Fischer has seniority.
Small Business	Joni Ernst (R-IA)	Rand Paul (R-KY)	
Veterans' Affairs	Jerry Moran (R-KS)	Jerry Moran (R-KS)	

Committee	118th Congress Ranking Member	117th Congress Chair	Notes
Aging	Bob Casey (D-PA)	Bob Casey (D-PA)	
Agriculture	Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)	Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)	
Appropriations	**Patty Murray (D-WA)**	**Patrick Leahy (D-VT)**	Leahy not seeking re-election; Murray has seniority
Armed Services	Jack Reed (D-RI)	Jack Reed (D-RI)	
Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs	Sherrod Brown (D-OH)	Sherrod Brown (D-OH)	
Budget	**Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)**	**Bernie Sanders (I-VT)**	Sanders has seniority in both HELP and Budget but seems

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			to prefer HELP; Whitehouse is next in line
Commerce	Maria Cantwell (D-WA)	Maria Cantwell (D-WA)	
Energy and Natural Resources	Joe Manchin (D-WV)	Joe Manchin (D-WV)	
Environment and Public Works	Tom Carper (D-DE)	Tom Carper (D-DE)	
Ethics	Chris Coons (D-DE)	Chris Coons (D-DE)	
Finance	Ron Wyden (D-OR)	Ron Wyden (D-OR)	
Foreign Relations	Bob Menendez (D-NJ)	Bob Menendez (D-NJ)	
HELP	**Bernie Sanders (I-VT)**	**Patty Murray (D-WA)**	Sanders has seniority in both HELP and Budget but prefers HELP Next in line are Bob Casey (D-PA) and Tammy Baldwin (D- WI)
Homeland Security	Gary Peters (D-MI)	Gary Peters (D-MI)	
Indian Affairs	Brian Schatz (D-HI)	Brian Schatz (D-HI)	
Intelligence	Mark Warner (D-VA)	Mark Warner (D-VA)	
International Narcotics Control	**Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)**	**Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)**	Assuming Sanders takes HELP and Whitehouse takes Budget; Blumenthal has seniority
Judiciary	Dick Durbin (D-IL)	Dick Durbin (D-IL)	
Rules and Administration	Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)	Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)	

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Small Business	Ben Cardin (D-MD)	Ben Cardin (D-MD)	
Veterans' Affairs	Jon Tester (D-MT)	Jon Tester (D-MT)	

SENATE CHAIR / RANKING MEMBER IF DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY			
Committee	**118th Congress Chair**	**117th Congress Chair**	**Notes**
Aging	Bob Casey (D-PA)	Bob Casey (D-PA)	
Agriculture	Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)	Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)	
Appropriations	**Patty Murray (D-WA)**	**Patrick Leahy (D-VT)**	Leahy not seeking re-election; Murray has seniority
Armed Services	Jack Reed (D-RI)	Jack Reed (D-RI)	
Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs	Sherrod Brown (D-OH)	Sherrod Brown (D-OH)	
Budget	**Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)**	**Bernie Sanders (I-VT)**	Sanders has seniority in both HELP and Budget but seems to prefer HELP; Whitehouse is next in line
Commerce	Maria Cantwell (D-WA)	Maria Cantwell (D-WA)	
Energy and Natural Resources	Joe Manchin (D-WV)	Joe Manchin (D-WV)	
Environment and Public Works	Tom Carper (D-DE)	Tom Carper (D-DE)	
Ethics	Chris Coons (D-DE)	Chris Coons (D-DE)	

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Finance	Ron Wyden (D-OR)	Ron Wyden (D-OR)	
Foreign Relations	Bob Menendez (D-NJ)	Bob Menendez (D-NJ)	
HELP	**Bernie Sanders (I-VT)**	**Patty Murray (D-WA)**	Sanders has seniority in both HELP and Budget but prefers HELP Next in line are Bob Casey (D-PA) and Tammy Baldwin (D- WI)
Homeland Security	Gary Peters (D-MI)	Gary Peters (D-MI)	
Indian Affairs	Brian Schatz (D-HI)	Brian Schatz (D-HI)	
Intelligence	Mark Warner (D-VA)	Mark Warner (D-VA)	
International Narcotics Control	**Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)**	**Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)**	Assuming Sanders takes HELP and Whitehouse takes Budget; Blumenthal has seniority
Judiciary	Dick Durbin (D-IL)	Dick Durbin (D-IL)	
Rules and Administration	Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)	Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)	
Small Business	Ben Cardin (D-MD)	Ben Cardin (D-MD)	
Veterans' Affairs	Jon Tester (D-MT)	Jon Tester (D-MT)	

Committee	118th Congress Ranking Member	117th Congress Ranking Member	Notes
Aging	**Mike Braun (R-IN)**	**Tim Scott (R-SC)**	Tim Scott is expected to Chair Banking; Braun has seniority

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Agriculture	John Boozman (R-AR)	John Boozman (R-AR)	
Appropriations	**Susan Collins (R-ME)**	**Richard Shelby (R-AL)**	Shelby not seeking re-election; Collins has seniority
Armed Services	**Roger Wicker (R-MS)**	**Jim Inhofe (R-OK)**	Inhofe not seeking re-election; Wicker has seniority
Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs	**Tim Scott (R-SC)**	**Pat Toomey (R-PA)**	Toomey not seeking re-election; Scott has seniority and is expected to Chair Banking in lieu of Aging, where he was Ranking Member in the 117th Congress
Budget	Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	Lindsey Graham (R-SC)	
Commerce	**Ted Cruz (R-TX)**	**Roger Wicker (R-MS)**	Wicker to Chair Armed Services; Thune is expected to be Whip; Blunt not seeking re-election; Cruz is next in line
Energy and Natural Resources	John Barrasso (R-WY)	John Barrasso (R-WY)	
Environment and Public Works	Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)	Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)	
Ethics	James Lankford (R-OK)	James Lankford (R-OK)	If Paul chooses HELP and Lankford is Chair of Homeland Security, then McConnell would appoint a new

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			Ethics Chair
Finance	Mike Crapo (R-ID)	Mike Crapo (R-ID)	
Foreign Relations	James Risch (R-ID)	Jim Risch (R-ID)	
HELP	**Rand Paul (R-KY) Bill Cassidy (R-LA)**	**Richard Burr (R-NC)**	Burr not seeking re-election. If Paul chooses Homeland and assuming Collins chooses Appropriations, Cassidy is next in line
Homeland Security	**Rand Paul (R-KY), James Lankford (R-OK)**	**Rob Portman (R-OH)**	Portman not seeking re-election; if Paul chooses HELP, Lankford gets Homeland
Indian Affairs	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	
Intelligence	Marco Rubio (R-FL)	Marco Rubio (R-FL)	
International Narcotics Control	John Cornyn (R-TX)	John Cornyn (R-TX)	
Judiciary	Chuck Grassley (R-IA)	Chuck Grassley (R-IA)	
Rules and Administration	**Deb Fischer (R-NE)**	**Roy Blunt (R-MO)**	Blunt not seeking re-election; Fischer has seniority.
Small Business	Joni Ernst (R-IA)	Rand Paul (R-KY)	
Veterans' Affairs	Jerry Moran (R-KS)	Jerry Moran (R-KS)	

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

HOUSE	CHAIR / RANKING MEMBER

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IF REPUBLICAN MAJORITY			
Committee	118th Congress Chair	117th Congress Ranking Member	Notes
Agriculture	G.T. Thompson (R-PA)	G.T. Thompson (R-PA)	
Appropriations	Kay Granger (R-TX)	Kay Granger (R-TX)	
Armed Services	Mike Rogers (R-AL)	Mike Rogers (R-AL)	
Budget	**OPEN**	**Jason Smith (R-MO)**	Smith is publicly seeking Ways & Means Chair, potential candidates are, Jodey Arrington (R-TX), Lloyd Smucker (R-PA), Buddy Carter (R-GA); Smith could return to Budget if he fails
Education and Labor (Under GOP, renamed Education & the Workforce)	**Tim Walberg (R-MI)**	**Virginia Foxx (R-NC)**	Foxx is term-limited under current Conference rules and McCarthy has signaled he's not interested in granting a waiver; Walberg most likely but Jim Banks (R-IN) may get this if loses the Whip Race
Energy and Commerce	Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)	Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)	
Ethics	Michael Guest (R-MS)	Michael Guest (R-MS)	
	Patrick	Patrick	

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Financial Services	McHenry (R-NC)	McHenry (R-NC)	
Foreign Affairs	Michael McCaul (R-TX)	Mike McCaul (R-TX)	
Homeland Security	**OPEN**	**John Katko (R-NY)**	Potential candidates: Dan Crenshaw (R-TX), Mark Green (R-TN), Clay Higgins (R-LA), Kat Cammack (R-FL), Dan Bishop (R-NC)
House Administration	**OPEN**	**Rodney Davis (R-IL)**	Speaker appointee; Bryan Stiel (R-WI) or Barry Loudermilk (R-GA) may get it
Judiciary	Jim Jordan (R-OH)	Jim Jordan (R-OH)	
Natural Resources	Bruce Westerman (R-AR)	Bruce Westerman (R-AR)	
Oversight and Reform	Jim Comer (R-KY)	Jim Comer (R-KY)	Other potential candidates: Stephen Lynch (D-MA), Gerald Connolly (D-VA), Jamie Raskin (D-MD)
Rules	Tom Cole (R-OK)	Tom Cole (R-OK)	
Science, Space and Technology	Frank Lucas (R-OK)	Frank Lucas (R-OK)	
Small Business	Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO)	Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO)	May also be Roger Williams (R-TX) if Luetkemeyer chooses to lead a subcommittee at Financial Services; Pete Stauber (R-MN) may also run

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Transportation and Infrastructure	Sam Graves (R-MO)	Sam Graves (R-MO)	
Veterans' Affairs	Mike Bost (R-IL)	Mike Bost (R-IL)	
Ways and Means	**OPEN**	**Kevin Brady (R-TX)**	Potential candidates: Adrian Smith (R-NE), Vern Buchanan (R-FL), Jason Smith (R-MO)
Intelligence	Mike Turner (R-OH)	Mike Turner (R-OH)	
Republican Study Committee	**Kevin Hern (R-OK)**	**Jim Banks (R-IN)**	Banks eyeing for Whip, Hern is expected to take over

Committee	118th Congress Ranking Member	117th Congress Chair	Notes
Agriculture	David Scott (D-GA)	David Scott (D-GA)	
Appropriations	Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)	Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)	
Armed Services	Adam Smith (D-WA)	Adam Smith (D-WA)	
Budget	**Brian Higgins (D-NY)**	**John Yarmuth (D-KY)**	Could also be Brendan Boyle (D-PA)
Education and Labor (Under GOP, renamed Education & the Workforce)	Bobby Scott (D-VA)	Bobby Scott (D-VA)	
Energy and Commerce	Frank Pallone (D-NJ)	Frank Pallone (D-NJ)	
Ethics	**OPEN**	**Susan Wild (D-PA)**	To be appointed by the Minority Leader
Financial Services	Maxine Waters (D-CA)	Maxine Waters (D-CA)	

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Foreign Affairs	Gregory Meeks (D-NY)	Gregory Meeks (D-NY)	
Homeland Security	Bennie Thompson (D-MS)	Bennie Thompson (D-MS)	
House Administration	Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)	Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)	
Judiciary	Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)	Jerry Nadler (D-NY)	
Natural Resources	Raúl M. Grijalva (D-AZ)	Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ)	
Oversight and Reform	**OPEN**	**Carolyn Maloney (D-NY)**	Potential candidates: Stephen Lynch (D-MA), Gerald Connolly (D-VA), Jamie Raskin (D-MD)
Rules	Jim McGovern (D-MA)	Jim McGovern (D-MA)	
Science, Space and Technology	**OPEN**	**Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)**	Potential candidates: Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Haley Stevens (D-MI)
Small Business	Nydia Velázquez (D-NY)	Nydia Velázquez (D-NY)	
Transportation and Infrastructure	**OPEN**	**Peter DeFazio (D-OR)**	Potential candidates: Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Rick Larsen (D-WA)
Veterans' Affairs	Mark Takano (D-CA)	Mark Takano (D-CA)	
Ways and Means	Richard Neal (D-MA)	Richard Neal (D-MA)	
Intelligence	Adam Schiff (D-CA)	Adam Schiff (D-CA)	

HOUSE CHAIR / RANKING

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MEMBER IF DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY Committee	118th Congress Chair	117th Congress Chair	Notes
Agriculture	David Scott (D-GA)	David Scott (D-GA)	
Appropriations	Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)	Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)	
Armed Services	Adam Smith (D-WA)	Adam Smith (D-WA)	
Budget	**Brian Higgins (D-NY)**	**John Yarmuth (D-KY)**	Could also be Brendan Boyle (D-PA)
Education and Labor	Bobby Scott (D-VA)	Bobby Scott (D-VA)	
Energy and Commerce	Frank Pallone (D-NJ)	Frank Pallone (D-NJ)	
Ethics	**OPEN**	**Susan Wild (D-PA)**	To be appointed by the Speaker
Financial Services	Maxine Waters (D-CA)	Maxine Waters (D-CA)	
Foreign Affairs	Gregory Meeks (D-NY)	Gregory Meeks (D-NY)	
Homeland Security	Bennie Thompson (D-MS)	Bennie Thompson (D-MS)	
House Administration	Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)	Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)	
Judiciary	Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)	Jerry Nadler (D-NY)	
Natural Resources	Raúl M. Grijalva (D-AZ)	Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ)	
Oversight and Reform	**OPEN**	**Carolyn Maloney (D-NY)**	Potential candidates: Stephen Lynch (D-MA), Gerald Connolly (D-VA), Jamie Raskin (D-MD)
Rules	Jim	Jim	

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	McGovern (D-MA)	McGovern (D-MA)	
Science, Space and Technology	**OPEN**	**Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)**	Potential candidates: Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Haley Stevens (D-MI)
Small Business	Nydia Velázquez (D-NY)	Nydia Velázquez (D-NY)	
Transportation and Infrastructure	**OPEN**	**Peter DeFazio (D-OR)**	Potential candidates: Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Rick Larsen (D-WA)
Veterans' Affairs	Mark Takano (D-CA)	Mark Takano (D-CA)	
Ways and Means	Richard Neal (D-MA)	Richard Neal (D-MA)	
Intelligence	Adam Schiff (D-CA)	Adam Schiff (D-CA)	

Committee	118th Congress Ranking Member	117th Congress Ranking Member	Notes
Agriculture	G.T. Thompson (R-PA)	G.T. Thompson (R-PA)	
Appropriations	Kay Granger (R-TX)	Kay Granger (R-TX)	
Armed Services	Mike Rogers (R-AL)	Mike Rogers (R-AL)	
Budget	**OPEN**	**Jason Smith (R-MO)**	Smith is publicly seeking Ways & Means Ranking Member, potential candidates are, Jodey Arrington (R-TX), Lloyd Smucker (R-PA), Buddy Carter (R-GA); Smith could

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			return to Budget if he fails
Education and Labor	**Tim Walberg (R-MI)**	**Virginia Foxx (R-NC)**	Foxx is term-limited under current Conference rules; Walberg most likely but Jim Banks (R-IN) may also get this
Energy and Commerce	Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)	Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)	
Ethics	Michael Guest (R-MS)	Michael Guest (R-MS)	
Financial Services	Patrick McHenry (R-NC)	Patrick McHenry (R-NC)	
Foreign Affairs	Michael McCaul (R-TX)	Mike McCaul (R-TX)	
Homeland Security	**OPEN**	**John Katko (R-NY)**	Potential candidates: Dan Crenshaw (R-TX), Mark Green (R-TN), Clay Higgins (R-LA), Kat Cammack (R-FL), Dan Bishop (R-NC)
House Administration	**OPEN**	**Rodney Davis (R-IL)**	Minority leader appointee; Bryan Stiel (R-WI) or Barry Loudermilk (R-GA) may get it
Judiciary	Jim Jordan (R-OH)	Jim Jordan (R-OH)	
Natural Resources	Bruce Westerman (R-AR)	Bruce Westerman (R-AR)	
Oversight and Reform	Jim Comer (R-KY)	Jim Comer (R-KY)	Other potential candidates: Stephen Lynch (D-MA), Gerald Connolly (D-VA), Jamie Raskin (D-

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			MD)
Rules	Tom Cole (R-OK)	Tom Cole (R-OK)	
Science, Space and Technology	Frank Lucas (R-OK)	Frank Lucas (R-OK)	
Small Business	Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO)	Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO)	May also be Roger Williams (R-TX) if Luetkemeyer chooses to lead a subcommittee at Financial Services; Pete Stauber (R-MN) may also run
Transportation and Infrastructure	Sam Graves (R-MO)	Sam Graves (R-MO)	
Veterans' Affairs	Mike Bost (R-IL)	Mike Bost (R-IL)	
Ways and Means	**OPEN**	**Kevin Brady (R-TX)**	Potential candidates: Adrian Smith (R-NE), Vern Buchanan (R-FL), Jason Smith (R-MO)
Intelligence	Mike Turner (R-OH)	Mike Turner (R-OH)	
Republican Study Committee	**Kevin Hern (R-OK)**	**Jim Banks (R-IN)**	Banks eyeing for Whip, Hern is expected to take over

**Certain congressional races are still too close to call and this Client Alert reflects our best judgment at the time of posting.*

The following Gibson Dunn attorneys assisted in preparing this client update: Michael D. Bopp, Roscoe Jones, Jr., Daniel P. Smith, and Alex Xiao.

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher's lawyers are available to assist in addressing any questions you may have regarding these issues. Please contact the Gibson Dunn lawyer with whom you usually work or the following lawyers in the firm's Congressional Investigations or Public Policy practice groups:

Michael D. Bopp – Chair, Congressional Investigations Group, Washington, D.C. (+1 202-955-8256, mbopp@gibsondunn.com)

Roscoe Jones, Jr. – Co-Chair, Public Policy Group, Washington, D.C. (+1 202-887-3530,

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rjones@gibsondunn.com)

Daniel P. Smith* – Washington, D.C. (+1 202-777-9549, dpsmith@gibsondunn.com)

Alex Xiao – New York (+1 212-351-5339, axiao@gibsondunn.com)

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