



OUTLOOK FOR CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

in the 118th Congress

Tiber Creek Group | OCTOBER 2022

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The 118th Congress-elect will begin to organize within weeks of the election, setting off a real-time musical chairs of committee leadership. In the Senate, where seniority generally dictates the gavel, the dizzying array of possibilities can be clarified by senators indicating their respective intentions ahead of time. In the House, however, gavels are generally the result of campaigns (with a select few Speaker-appointed), determined by the selection of a steering committee and/or votes of the entire conference (GOP) and caucus (Democrats) as swearing-in day approaches. Further, GOP term-limits, which are established by Conference rules, may be extended to the full House in a GOP majority; adding further complication is the possibility of granting waivers as well as the likelihood of a GOP-led House potentially removing certain Members from preferred committees once the 118th Congress convenes. The below represents our informed speculation based on “known knowns,” assuming a switch in the House majority, with further clarification provided in the weeks to come.

SENATE CHAIR / RANKING MEMBER MUSICAL CHAIRS IF DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY

Committee	Democratic Majority Expected Chair / Ranking Member
Aging	CHAIR: Bob Casey (D-PA), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) RANKING MEMBER: Mike Braun (R-IN)
Agriculture	CHAIR: Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) RANKING MEMBER: John Boozman (R-AR)
Appropriations	CHAIR: Patty Murray (D-WA) RANKING MEMBER: Susan Collins (R-ME)
Armed Services	CHAIR: Jack Reed (D-RI) RANKING MEMBER: Roger Wicker (R-MS)
Banking	CHAIR: Sherrod Brown (D-OH) RANKING MEMBER: Tim Scott (R-SC)
Budget	CHAIR: *Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) RANKING MEMBER: Chuck Grassley (R-IA) <i>*Sanders has seniority on HELP and Budget; he will have to decide</i>
Commerce	CHAIR: Maria Cantwell (D-WA) RANKING MEMBER: Ted Cruz (R-TX)
Energy and Natural Resources	CHAIR: Joe Manchin (D-WV) RANKING MEMBER: John Barrasso (R-WY)
Environment and Public Works	CHAIR: Tom Carper (D-DE) RANKING MEMBER: Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)
Ethics	CHAIR: Chris Coons (D-DE) RANKING MEMBER: James Lankford (R-OK)
Finance	CHAIR: Ron Wyden (D-OR) RANKING MEMBER: Mike Crapo (R-ID)
Foreign Relations	CHAIR: Bob Menendez (D-NJ) RANKING MEMBER: James Risch (R-ID)
HELP	CHAIR: *Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Bob Casey (D-PA), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) RANKING MEMBER: *Rand Paul (R-KY) <i>*Sanders has seniority on HELP and Budget; he will have to decide</i> <i>*Paul has seniority on Homeland Security and HELP, he will have to decide</i>
Homeland Security	CHAIR: Gary Peters (D-MI) RANKING MEMBER: *Rand Paul (R-KY), *James Lankford (R-OK) <i>*Lankford likely if Paul takes HELP</i>
Indian Affairs	CHAIR: Brian Schatz (D-HI) RANKING MEMBER: Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
Intelligence	CHAIR: Mark Warner (D-VA) VICE CHAIR: Marco Rubio (R-FL)
Judiciary	CHAIR: Dick Durbin (D-IL) RANKING MEMBER: Lindsey Graham (R-SC)
Rules	CHAIR: Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) RANKING MEMBER: Deb Fischer (R-NE)
Small Business	CHAIR: Ben Cardin (D-MD) RANKING MEMBER: Joni Ernst (R-IA)
Veterans' Affairs	CHAIR: Jon Tester (D-MT) RANKING MEMBER: Jerry Moran (R-KS)

SENATE CHAIR / RANKING MEMBER MUSICAL CHAIRS IF REPUBLICAN MAJORITY

Committee	Republican Majority Expected Chair / Ranking Member
Aging	CHAIR: Mike Braun (R-IN) RANKING MEMBER: Bob Casey (D-PA)
Agriculture	CHAIR: John Boozman (R-AR) RANKING MEMBER: Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)
Appropriations	CHAIR: Susan Collins (R-ME) RANKING MEMBER: Patty Murray (D-WA)
Armed Services	CHAIR: Roger Wicker (R-MS) RANKING MEMBER: Jack Reed (D-RI)
Banking	CHAIR: Tim Scott (R-SC) RANKING MEMBER: Sherrod Brown (D-OH)
Budget	CHAIR: Lindsey Graham (R-SC) RANKING MEMBER: *Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) <i>*Sanders has seniority on HELP and Budget; he will have to decide</i>
Commerce	CHAIR: Ted Cruz (R-TX) RANKING MEMBER: Maria Cantwell (D-WA)
Energy and Natural Resources	CHAIR: John Barrasso (R-WY) RANKING MEMBER: Joe Manchin (D-WV)
Environment and Public Works	CHAIR: Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) RANKING MEMBER: Tom Carper (D-DE)
Ethics	CHAIR: *James Lankford (R-OK) <i>*If Paul chooses HELP and Lankford is Chair of (HSGAC), then McConnell would appoint a new Ethics Chair</i> RANKING MEMBER: Chris Coons (D-DE)
Finance	CHAIR: Mike Crapo (R-ID) RANKING MEMBER: Ron Wyden (D-OR)
Foreign Relations	CHAIR: James Risch (R-ID) RANKING MEMBER: Bob Menendez (D-NJ)
HELP	CHAIR: *Rand Paul (R-KY), Bill Cassidy (R-LA) RANKING MEMBER: *Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Bob Casey (D-PA), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) <i>*Sanders has seniority on HELP and Budget; he will have to decide</i> <i>*Paul has seniority on Homeland Security and HELP; he will have to decide</i>
Homeland Security	CHAIR: *Rand Paul (R-KY), *James Lankford (R-OK) RANKING MEMBER: Gary Peters (D-MI) <i>*Paul has seniority on Homeland Security and Small Business; he will have to decide</i>
Indian Affairs	CHAIR: Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) RANKING MEMBER: Brian Schatz (D-HI)
Intelligence	CHAIR: Marco Rubio (R-FL) VICE CHAIR: Mark Warner (D-VA)
Judiciary	CHAIR: Chuck Grassley (R-IA) RANKING MEMBER: Dick Durbin (D-IL)
Rules	CHAIR: Deb Fischer (R-NE) RANKING MEMBER: Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
Small Business	CHAIR: Joni Ernst (R-IA) RANKING MEMBER: Ben Cardin (D-MD)
Veterans' Affairs	CHAIR: Jerry Moran (R-KS) RANKING MEMBER: Jon Tester (D-MT)

HOUSE CHAIR / RANKING MEMBER MUSICAL CHAIRS

Committee	Republican Majority Expected Chair / Ranking Member
Agriculture	CHAIR: GT Thompson (R-PA) RANKING MEMBER: David Scott (D-GA)
Appropriations	CHAIR: Kay Granger (R-TX) RANKING MEMBER: Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
Armed Services	CHAIR: Mike Rogers (R-AL) RANKING MEMBER: Adam Smith (D-WA)
Budget	CHAIR: *Jason Smith (R-MO), Jodey Arrington (R-TX), Lloyd Smucker (R-PA), Buddy Carter (R-GA) <i>*Incumbent Chairman, publicly seeking Ways & Means</i> RANKING MEMBER: Brian Higgins (D-NY), Brendan Boyle (D-PA) <i>*Elected position</i>
Education and Labor <i>(Under GOP, renamed Education & the Workforce)</i>	CHAIR: *Virginia Foxx (R-NC) <i>*Term-limited under current Conference rules, but she could receive a waiver</i> RANKING MEMBER: Bobby Scott (D-VA)
Energy and Commerce	CHAIR: Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) RANKING MEMBER: Frank Pallone (D-NJ)
Ethics	CHAIR: Michael Guest (R-MS) RANKING MEMBER: Minority Leader Appointed
Financial Services	CHAIR: Patrick McHenry (R-NC) RANKING MEMBER: Maxine Waters (D-CA)
Foreign Affairs	CHAIR: Michael McCaul (R-TX) RANKING MEMBER: Gregory Meeks (D-NY)
Homeland Security	CHAIR: OPEN, Dan Crenshaw (R-TX), Clay Higgins (R-LA), Kat Cammack (R-FL), Dan Bishop (R-NC), Mark Green (R-TN) RANKING MEMBER: Bennie Thompson (D-MS)
House Administration	CHAIR: OPEN, Barry Loudermilk (R-GA) RANKING MEMBER: Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)
Judiciary	CHAIR: Jim Jordan (R-OH) RANKING MEMBER: Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)
Natural Resources	CHAIR: Bruce Westerman (R-AR) RANKING MEMBER: Raúl M. Grijalva (D-AZ)
Oversight and Reform	CHAIR: James Comer (R-KY) RANKING MEMBER: OPEN, Stephen Lynch (D-MA), Gerald Connolly (D-VA), Jamie Raskin (D-MD)
Rules	CHAIR: Tom Cole (R-OK) RANKING MEMBER: Jim McGovern (D-MA)
Science, Space and Technology	CHAIR: Frank Lucas (R-OK) RANKING MEMBER: OPEN, Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Haley Stevens (D-MI)
Small Business	CHAIR: *Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO), Roger Williams (R-TX) <i>*While the incumbent senior Republican, may return to lead a subcommittee at Financial Services</i> RANKING MEMBER: Nydia Velázquez (D-NY)
Transportation and Infrastructure	CHAIR: Sam Graves (R-MO) RANKING MEMBER: OPEN, Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Rick Larsen (D-WA)
Veterans' Affairs	CHAIR: Mike Bost (R-IL) RANKING MEMBER: Mark Takano (D-CA)
Ways and Means	CHAIR: OPEN, Adrian Smith (R-NE), Vern Buchanan (R-FL), Jason Smith (R-MO) RANKING MEMBER: Richard Neal (D-MA)
Intelligence	CHAIR: Mike Turner (R-OH) RANKING MEMBER: Adam Schiff (D-CA)
Republican Study Committee	CHAIR: Kevin Hern (R-OK)