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Rules Governing House Committee and Subcommittee Assignment Procedures

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SUMMARY

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Michael Greene
Analyst on Congress and the Legislative Process

Rules Governing House Committee and Subcommittee Assignment Procedures

Members of the House are assigned to serve on committees at the start of every Congress. Most assignments involve a three-step process involving the party caucuses and action on the House floor. First, a Member is nominated to committee assignments by their party's steering committee. Next, the full party caucus or conference votes to approve the steering committee's nominations. Finally, a simple resolution is introduced and agreed to on the House floor that formally elects Members to their party-approved committee assignments. These resolutions, by long-standing practice, have been agreed to without objection as the party's mutually recognize each other's right to determine committee assignments for their own Members.

Service on standing and non-standing committees in the House is shaped by both the Rules of the House and rules adopted by the political parties. "Standing committees" are permanently established under House Rule X, as opposed to "non-standing" committees (e.g., select or joint committees) which are created by resolution or law, and are often temporary in nature. The Rules of the House limit Members' service to no more than two standing committees and not more than four subcommittees thereon. However, House Rules also allow for these restrictions to be waived upon recommendation by either party caucus.

Both the Republican Conference and the Democratic Caucus have further rules limiting the type and number of committees Members may serve on. In general, Members of both parties are limited to one committee assignment when serving on an "exclusive" committee. Otherwise, Members generally may receive two "non-exclusive" committee assignments. Exceptions to these limitations can be granted by the party caucuses as deemed warranted. In addition, under both parties' rules, Members are generally limited to chairing one committee or subcommittee, with some exceptions. The Republican Conference also limits chairs (and ranking members) to serving for not more than three consecutive terms.

Both the Democratic Caucus and Republican Conference task steering committees with recommending most committee assignments for their respective memberships. The particulars of this nominating process varies between the two parties, with each party specifying different factors in the consideration of making assignments. Still other assignments are recommended directly by the party leader (whether the Speaker when in the majority, or minority leader when in the minority)—including to all non-standing committees. In any case, recommendations for assignment to standing committees must also be approved by a majority of the full party caucus before final action can be taken on the House floor.

Just as the House elects its Members to committee assignments, so too do committees elect their members to serve on subcommittees. In general, the Republican Conference vests greater authority in committee chairs in determining subcommittee assignments. The Democratic Caucus has more formal procedures that all of its committees must follow in making subcommittee assignments. Unlike committee assignments, subcommittee assignments are not approved on the House floor.

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Introduction

At the outset of every two-year Congress, the House of Representatives assigns Members to serve on the chamber's various committees.[1] Service on House committees can provide Members with opportunities to develop expertise in specific policy areas, contribute to marking up legislation that will be considered on the House floor, and participate in oversight hearings on topics of interest to the American public. The House is responsible for electing Members to committees and does so through the adoption of simple resolutions (H.Res.). However, this step represents the culmination of processes internal to each party caucus that began at the end of the previous Congress. Both the House Democratic Caucus and Republican Conference appoint Members to steering committees, composed of party leaders and elected Members, which are responsible for nominating party colleagues for assignment to committees. The steering committee's nominations are then voted on by the full membership of the relevant party caucus before being submitted to the House for approval by resolution. Tables listing the composition of each party's steering committee in the 117th Congress (2021-2022) can be found in **Appendix A**.

This report provides an examination of the committee assignment process for both standing and non-standing committees and their subcommittees. The term "standing committees" refers to committees permanently established under House Rule X that have legislative and oversight jurisdiction over a number of stated subject areas. Non-standing committees (e.g., select or joint committees) are created by resolution or law, typically to investigate certain issues or events and may or may not have legislative jurisdiction.[2]

The structure of this report is intended to allow readers to jump directly to information about different types of committee assignments and the party procedures that are of immediate interest to them. The report begins with an examination of requirements and limitations under House rules related to committee assignment. It then discusses relevant rules adopted by the Democratic Caucus and Republican Conference and lays out party procedures for assigning Members to, and leadership on, standing committees, subcommittees, and non-standing committees. For the 117th Congress, Democratic Caucus Rules can be found at https://www.dems.gov/rules-of-the-democratic-caucus, and Republican Conference Rules can be found at https://www.gop.gov/conference-rules-of-the-117th-congress/.

The Role of Adopted Rules versus Unwritten Practice

This report primarily limits its discussion to House rules, Republican Conference rules, and Democratic Caucus rules. While these rules provide some formal parameters that the parties may use in making committee assignments, both parties also have long-standing practices that further shape the process. Given that party decisions related to committee assignments occur outside of public view, this report cannot authoritatively or comprehensively account for these practices or how they may vary from procedures defined under the rules. In any case, the formal House and

[1] While most committee assignments occur at the beginning of a Congress, the House continues to periodically adopt assignment resolutions throughout the session. Throughout a Congress, new assignments might need to be made for a number of reasons; for example, due to special elections, a Member switching parties, or Members changing committees due to a retirement. In the 116th Congress (2019-2020), the House agreed to over 30 such appointing resolutions, including during the 2nd session.

[2] More discussion on the types of committees in the House (and Senate) can be found in CRS Report 98-241, *Committee Types and Roles*, by Valerie Heitshusen.

party rules remain paramount as they serve to inform Members of their rights in the process, and they might be relied upon in complicated or contentious situations.

House Rules and Practices Relating to Standing Committee Assignments

Under its rules, the House is required to elect the standing committees within seven calendar days after the start of a new Congress.[3] While the preliminary assignment of Members to committees typically occurs within that time period, additional assignments are routinely made in the weeks that follow. Elections to committees formally occur through the adoption of simple resolutions, offered by Members on behalf of their respective party caucuses, assigning Members from the majority or minority parties.[4] While technically debatable and amendable, by long-standing practice, these resolutions have been agreed to by unanimous consent in tacit recognition by the parties of each other's right to determine committee assignments for their own Members.[5]

House Rule X, clause 5(b)(2)(A), limits Members to service on two standing committees and not more than four subcommittees, thereon, at the same time. However, the rule further provides that these limitations can be waived by recommendation of either the Democratic Caucus or Republican Conference for their respective membership.[6] In other words, Members may serve on more than two committees or four subcommittees if so approved by their party. Such occasional exceptions are commonly referred to as "waivers."

In addition to limits on committee and subcommittee service generally, House rules also dictate the composition of membership on the Committees on the Budget and on Ethics. Membership on the Committee on the Budget is comprised of

- Five Members from the Committee on Appropriations;
- Five Members from the Committee on Ways and Means;
- One Member from the Committee on Rules;
- One Member designated by majority party leadership; and
- One Member designated by minority party leadership.[7]

The Committee on Ethics consists of ten Members, with membership equally divided between the parties. House Rule X, clause 5(a)(3)(B) further limits Members from

[3] House Rule X, clause 5(a)(1).

[4] Such resolutions are privileged for consideration under House Rule X, clause 5(a)(1), if offered at the direction of the Republican Conference or Democratic Caucus—meaning that they have priority over the routine daily order of business. For further reading on the concept of privilege in the House, see CRS Report 98-315, *Privileged Business on the House Floor*, by James V. Saturno.

[5] The content of these resolutions list names of individuals appointed on behalf of the majority and minority parties to specified committees and their relative order of seniority on the committee. The following examples from the 117th Congress include the appointment of committee chairs (H.Res. 9), Members from the majority party (H.Res. 62), and Members from the minority party (H.Res. 63).

[6] This limitation also does not apply in certain specific circumstances, including ex officio service by chairs and ranking minority members on their standing committee's subcommittees, and Member service on an Ethics Committee investigative subcommittee.

[7] House Rule X, clause 5(a)(2). While the rule sets the composition described above, it is not limited to only those Members. The rule also provides for additional membership of those "who are members of other standing committees." During the 117th Congress (2021-2022), the Committee on the Budget had 36 Members.

serving on the committee for not more than three Congresses within a period of five consecutive Congresses.[8]

Size and Ratios of Committees

Other than the considerations discussed above, House rules are silent on the size of standing committees and do not prescribe a particular ratio of majority to minority Members.[9] As a result, leadership from both parties negotiate these parameters following the outcome of an election and prior to the start of the next Congress.[10] The size of committees may be adjusted to account for Member interest and, more importantly, provide for party ratios that, in the aggregate, reflect the ratio of the parties in the House at large.[11] In turn, these decisions about ratios provide the party caucuses with the information they need to make assignments for their respective memberships.[12] Discussion of the parties' processes for assigning Members follows in the sections below.

Party Rules and Practices Relating to Standing Committee Assignments

In addition to the limits placed on committee assignments by House rules, both the Democratic Caucus and Republican Conference also observe further restrictions on committee service. Both Democrats and Republicans categorize committees as "exclusive" or "non-exclusive" in their respective party rules or practices. As the name might suggest, Members assigned to an exclusive committee generally receive no other committee assignments (though waivers are sometimes given by the parties on a case-by-case basis). Committees are designated as exclusive in recognition of their broad legislative jurisdictions and substantial workloads. Assignments to exclusive committees are often sought by Members because they can provide the opportunity to more frequently work on major legislative and oversight initiatives over the course of a Congress. Both the Republican and Democratic parties distinguish the same committees as exclusive or non-exclusive, as listed in **Table 1**, below. However, while the Democratic Caucus formally establishes exclusive committees in their party rules, the Republican Conference does not—instead, treating committee exclusivity as a long-standing informal practice.

Table 1. Party Designation of Exclusive and Non-exclusive Committees

Exclusive Committees		
Appropriations	Energy and Commerce[a]	Ways and Means
Rules	Financial Services[b]	
Non-Exclusive Committees		

[8] The rule specifies that service on the committee for a portion of a Congress does not count towards the three Congress limit, and Members may serve for a fourth or fifth Congress as chair or ranking member.

[9] House rules designated the size of standing committees until the adoption of the Committee Reform Amendments of 1974, which went into effect at the start of the 94th Congress (1975-1976).

[10] 2 U.S.C. §29a.

[11] In particular, Democratic Caucus Rules 16(A) and (B) direct that the party should attempt to negotiate committee ratios that are "at least as representative" as the ratio of Democrats to Republicans in the House. Republican Conference Rules do not contain any equivalent requirement.

[12] More information on historical committee ratios can be found in CRS Report R40478, *House Committee Party Ratios: 98th-117th Congresses*, by Sarah J. Eckman.

Agriculture	Homeland Security	Science, Space, and Technology
Armed Services	House Administration	Small Business
Budget	Judiciary	Transportation and Infrastructure
Education and Labor	Natural Resources	Veterans' Affairs
Foreign Affairs	Oversight and Reform	

Source: Based on Democratic Caucus Rule 17 and Republican Conference practices.

a. The Committee on Energy and Commerce is exclusive for Members of the Democratic Party serving on the committee for the first time during the 104th Congress (1995-1996) or later. It is not treated as an exclusive assignment for Democratic Members with service on the committee prior to the 104th Congress.

b. The Committee on Financial Services is exclusive for Members of the Democratic Party serving on the committee for the first time during the 109th Congress (2005-2006) or later. It is not treated as an exclusive assignment for Democratic Members with service on the committee prior to the 109th Congress.

Democratic Caucus Rules

Committee assignments within the House Democratic Caucus generally follow a two-step process. First, Members are nominated to service on a committee by either the Steering and Policy Committee or by the party's leader (the Speaker of the House when Democrats are in the majority or the Democratic leader when the party is in the minority). Nominations are then subject to approval by majority vote of the full Democratic Caucus before being formally submitted to the House for approval by resolution.

The Steering and Policy Committee is responsible for nominating membership for all standing committees, except for the Committee on Rules and the Committee on House Administration, whose membership is directly nominated by the party leader. Members may also nominate themselves for an assignment to these standing committees by submitting written notice, co-signed by at least 50 percent of their state's Democratic delegation, to the Steering and Policy Committee for consideration, although this is rare.

Pursuant to House Democratic Caucus rules, the Steering and Policy Committee accounts for multiple factors when considering committee assignments. Nominations by the committee are not required to follow seniority and should not "discriminate" based on Members' prior work experience.[13] Instead, Caucus Rule 19(B)(2) directs Steering and Policy to consider—

> "merit, length of service on the committee, degree of commitment to the Democratic agenda, and the diversity of the Caucus, including appropriate representation of the Caucus' ideological and regional diversity, in making nominations for committee assignments."

Nominations to the Committees on Appropriations, Ways and Means, and Budget, are governed by slightly different procedures. Pursuant to Caucus Rule 19(D), Members on Appropriations and Ways and Means are automatically re-nominated to those committees by the Steering and Policy Committee each Congress. Vacancies in either committee are nominated by the Steering and Policy Committee in the same fashion as in any other standing committee.

Nominations to the Budget Committee are governed by House Rule X, clause 5(a)(2), which, as noted, requires Members be drawn from the Committees on Appropriations, Ways and Means, and Rules. The Steering and Policy Committee nominates Members to all seats on the Budget Committee, except one Member appointed by the party leader, and the chair (or ranking minority member), who is directly appointed by the full Democratic Caucus. Any Member may also

[13] Democratic Caucus Rule 19(B)(4).

nominate themselves to a seat on Appropriations, Ways and Means, or Budget, by submitting a written notice co-signed by five additional Democratic Members to the Democratic Caucus Chair and Vice Chair by close of business on the day prior to committee elections.

Once nominations have been submitted to the Democratic Caucus, assignments are approved one committee at a time by a majority of those present and voting. A secret ballot vote may be held on the assignment of any individual Member if demanded by 10 or more Members of the Caucus. In such cases, Caucus rules provide for 30 minutes of debate, equally divided between proponents and opponents of the candidate. Following debate, if any nominee is rejected, the full list of committee nominees is returned to the Steering and Policy Committee to allow for new nominations to replace rejected Members (or, in the case of the Committees on Rules and House Administration, new nominations are submitted by the party leader).

Table 2. Committee Nominations within the Democratic Caucus

Committee	Steering and Policy Committee Nominates	Party Leader Nominates
Agriculture	Chair & Members	
Appropriations	Chair & Members[a]	
Armed Services	Chair & Members	
Budget	All but one Member[b,c]	One Member
Education and Labor	Chair & Members	
Energy and Commerce	Chair & Members	
Ethics	Chair & Members	
Financial Services	Chair & Members	
Foreign Affairs	Chair & Members	
Homeland Security	Chair & Members	
House Administration		Chair & Members
Judiciary	Chair & Members	
Natural Resources	Chair & Members	
Oversight and Reform	Chair & Members	
Rules		Chair & Members
Science, Space, and Technology	Chair & Members	
Small Business	Chair & Members	
Transportation and Infrastructure	Chair & Members	
Veterans' Affairs	Chair & Members	
Ways and Means	Chair & Members[a]	
Special, select, & other committees		Chair & Members

Source: CRS analysis of House Democratic Caucus Rules 19 and 21.

Notes: Any Democratic Member may petition for nomination to any committee assignment (except to Rules or House Administration) upon written request co-signed by at least 50 percent of the Member's state Democratic delegation and submitted to the Steering and Policy Committee.

a. The Steering and Policy Committee is required under Caucus Rules to nominate Members who served on the committee in the previous Congress, but is otherwise responsible for making nominations to any

vacancies. Members may also petition for a nomination to the committee by submitting a written notice co-signed by five additional Democrat Members to the Democratic Caucus Chair and Vice Chair by close of business on the day prior to committee elections.

b. Democratic Caucus Rules direct the Steering and Policy Committee to make nominations to the Budget Committee in accordance with House Rule X, clause 5(a)(2), which requires Members be drawn from the Committees on Appropriations, Ways and Means, and Rules.

c. The chair of the Budget Committee is appointed directly by majority vote of the Democratic Caucus, pursuant to Democratic Caucus Rule 20(A)(1)(a).

Limitations

Democratic Caucus rules establish certain limitations on Member service on committees in addition to those provided for in the Rules of the House. However, in practice, Members may receive waivers or be given temporary committee assignments that would otherwise not be allowed under these limitations. Absent any waiver or temporary assignment, the following restrictions on committee service apply to Democratic Members:

- Assignment to an exclusive committee precludes any further committee assignments, other than to the Committees on Budget and House Administration.
- Members may not serve on more than two committees with legislative jurisdiction. This rule does not apply to the Committees on House Administration or Ethics.
- Democratic Caucus rules reiterate House Rule X, clause 5(a)(3)(B), limiting service on the Ethics Committee to not more than three Congresses within a period of five successive Congresses.
- Members assigned to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence may only be given one additional standing committee assignment. While serving on Intelligence, Members may take a leave of absence from their other prior assignments to preserve their committee seniority upon their return.

Temporary Assignments

The Steering and Policy Committee is empowered by Caucus rules to determine, on a committee by committee basis, whether or not to fill any remaining vacancies after Democratic Members have received their preliminary assignments. Any Members' assignments to these additional vacancies are designated as temporary and come with additional restrictions. Members on temporary assignment do not accrue seniority on the committee while serving in that capacity and their appointment is considered expired at the end of a Congress, that is, they do not have the automatic right to return to the committee in the subsequent Congress. Temporarily assigned Members also generally cannot bid on subcommittee assignments except if vacancies remain after all other committee members have declined the seat.

Waivers

When deemed necessary, the Democratic Caucus may grant a waiver to allow a Member to serve on a committee in a way that would otherwise violate Caucus rules. Waivers are recommended by the Committee on Caucus Procedures—an entity appointed by the Caucus Chair—and voted on by the full Caucus in a secret ballot vote. Records of waivers regarding committee assignments are maintained by the Steering and Policy

Committee and, pursuant to Caucus Rule 10(B)(3), are available for review by all Members of the Caucus.

Republican Conference Rules

Within the House Republican Conference, the Steering Committee is responsible for nominating party Members to most standing committee assignments.[14] The party's leader (the Speaker or the Republican leader depending on whether or not the party is in the majority) makes nominations to the Committees on Rules, House Administration, and for one assignment to the Committee on the Budget. All nominations to committee assignments are then subject to approval by majority vote of the Republican Conference. By default, any contested election is conducted by secret ballot and proxy votes are prohibited. However, any vote by the Republican Conference may be conducted by secret ballot if demanded by a Member and seconded by five additional Republican Representatives. If any nomination fails to secure majority support of the Conference, then the nominating body is directed to submit a new recommendation for consideration. While Republican Conference rules do not specify a method by which Members can directly nominate themselves for a committee assignment, the rules do not prohibit that possibility either.[15]

Vacancies in committees are filled by the entity or individual responsible for making nominations at the start of the Congress. Vacancies filled by the Steering Committee are submitted directly to the House and do not require approval by the Republican Conference. The Republican leader nominates replacements for vacancies at the Committees on Rules, House Administration, and one seat on Budget, which must then be approved by a majority of the Republican Conference.

Table 3. Committee Nominations within the Republican Conference

Committee Assignment	Steering and Policy Committee Nominates	Party Leader Nominates
Agriculture	Chair & Members	
Appropriations	Chair & Members	
Armed Services	Chair & Members	
Budget	Chair & all but one Member[a]	One Member
Education and Labor	Chair & Members	
Energy and Commerce	Chair & Members	
Ethics	Chair & Members	
Financial Services	Chair & Members	
Foreign Affairs	Chair & Members	
Homeland Security	Chair & Members	

[14] While this report discusses assignment procedures according to the Republican Conference's rules, readers can find additional discussion of the bidding process by Members in a publicly available copy of the Republican Member book for the 112th Congress (2011-2012). See, *Hit the Ground Running Member Book*, 112th Congress ed., pp. 38-39, at https://www.governmentattic.org/4docs/HitGroundRunning2011.pdf.

[15] By contrast, nominations for committee chairs are only in order if made by recommendation of the Steering Committee pursuant to Republican Conference Rule 14(a)(1). Because the rules specify what nominations are in order for chairs and are silent in regard to other committee assignments, it appears possible that Republican Members may be able to nominate themselves for consideration by the full Conference, notwithstanding the recommendations of the Steering Committee.

Committee Assignment	Steering and Policy Committee Nominates	Party Leader Nominates
House Administration		Chair & Members
Judiciary	Chair & Members	
Natural Resources	Chair & Members	
Oversight and Reform	Chair & Members	
Rules		Chair & Members
Science, Space, and Technology	Chair & Members	
Small Business	Chair & Members	
Transportation and Infrastructure	Chair & Members	
Veterans' Affairs	Chair & Members	
Ways and Means	Chair & Members	
Special, select, & other Committees		Chair & Members

Source: CRS analysis of House Republican Conference Rule 12.

a. House Rule X, clause 5(a)(2), further requires that Members on the Budget Committee be appointed from Members on the Committees on Appropriations, Ways and Means, and Rules.

Limitations

There are no explicit limitations codified in the Republican Conference's rules regarding Members' service on committees, although limitations set by the rules of the House still apply. However, as previously discussed, the Conference does observe a long-standing practice designating certain committees as exclusive. Generally, Republican Members appointed to an exclusive committee do not receive any other assignments to standing committees. However, Republican Conference Rule 12(b)(3) allows Members assigned to the Committee on Rules to be "on leave with seniority" from a standing committee on which they previously served. This status allows a Member to retain their seniority when they return to Membership on said committee, after concluding their service on the Rules Committee.

Committee Chair Appointments

Democratic Caucus Rules

The Democratic Steering and Policy Committee is responsible for nominating chairs (or ranking members when in the minority) to all standing committees except for the Committees on Rules, House Administration, and the Budget. The Democratic leader nominates chairs to the Committees on Rules and House Administration, while the Democratic Caucus directly elects the chair of the Committee on the Budget. As when considering committee assignments, the Steering and Policy Committee is directed by caucus rules to factor in merit, committee service, commitment to the Democratic agenda, and overall diversity of the Caucus, while not having to adhere to seniority in making nominations.

The election of committee chairs by the full Democratic Caucus is subject to different criteria depending on whether a nominee would be continuing as chair from a prior Congress or the position is vacant. In cases where the candidate nominated by the Steering and Policy Committee

or Democratic leader served as chair in the previous Congress, other candidates must meet either of the following requirements in order to also be considered during the Caucus vote:

- During consideration of chair candidates by the Steering and Policy committee, at least 14 Members voted for someone other than the prevailing nominee; or
- 50 or more Members submit a written request that additional nominations be considered by the Democratic Caucus.

If the Caucus is filling a vacant committee chair, these extra requirements do not need to be met by a Member in order to contest the Steering and Policy Committee's nominee. Members may nominate themselves or any other Member of the Caucus to be chair as long as the candidate serves on the committee in question.[16] However, as described above, Democratic Caucus rules make it more difficult to challenge a chair seeking to continue in that role from one Congress to the next.

All votes on committee chairs taken by the Steering and Policy Committee and the Democratic Conference are conducted by secret ballot, unless a majority votes to adopt a motion to waive the requirement.[17] Debate is limited to 60 minutes, equally divided between proponents and opponents for each nominee, but may be extended by majority vote of the Caucus.[18] If more than two candidates are under consideration for a chair position, the Member receiving the least amount of votes is eliminated after each round of voting until one nominee receives majority support.[19]

Limitations

Committee chairs are further limited on any additional committee assignments. In general, Members are limited to serving as a chair for only one committee, though the Caucus may waive the rule in regards to non-standing committees.[20] Chairs are also generally prohibited from serving as the chair of a subcommittee or as a member of the Committee on Ethics.[21] Lastly, committee chairs for certain committees may not receive any additional committee assignments, as detailed in **Table 4**.

Table 4. Limitations on Committee Assignments for Standing Committee Chairs

House Democratic Caucus Rule 22(A)(1)

Committee Chairs limited to one committee assignment		Committee Chairs that may receive an additional committee assignment	
Appropriations	Homeland Security	Agriculture	Oversight and Reform

[16] This requirement does not apply to the Committee on the Budget because the chair is elected by the caucus before any other assignments to the committee are made.

[17] Democratic Caucus Rule 21(A)(4).

[18] Democratic Caucus Rule 21(C).

[19] Democratic Caucus Rule 3(C) further provides that if multiple candidates are tied in receiving the fewest votes in a round, neither is eliminated. If those candidates tie for the least amount of votes in a second round of voting, they are both eliminated from consideration moving into the next vote.

[20] In addition, Democratic Caucus Rule 22(C) makes exceptions that allow for specific concurrent chair assignments. The Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means may also concurrently serve as chair of the Joint Committee on Taxation. The House Administration Chair may also concurrently serve as the chair of the Joint Committee on Print and the Joint Committee on the Library.

[21] The chairs for the Committees on Appropriations, Ethics, House Administration, and joint committees may also serve as subcommittee chairs (Democratic Caucus Rule 22(D)(1).

Committee Chairs limited to one committee assignment		Committee Chairs that may receive an additional committee assignment	
Armed Services	Judiciary	Budget	Science, Space, and Technology
Education	Rules	Foreign Affairs	Small Business
Energy and Commerce	Transportation and Infrastructure	House Administration	Veterans' Affairs
Ethics	Ways and Means	Natural Resources	
Financial Services			

Source: CRS analysis of House Democratic Caucus rules and House rules.

Republican Conference Rules

As with Member committee assignments, the Steering Committee and Republican leader are responsible for nominating committee chairs (or ranking members when in the minority), who are then subject to approval by majority vote of the Republican Conference. The Steering Committee exclusively nominates chairs to all standing committees except Rules and House Administration (both of which are nominated by the Speaker or Republican Party leader). In considering its recommendations, the Steering Committee interviews every Member interested in becoming a committee chair, including those Members who held a chair in the previous Congress and desire to continue serving in that capacity. The Steering Committee is not ultimately bound to nominate Members based on their committee seniority. Any chair elections that are contested by multiple candidates are held by secret ballot.[22]

While Republican Members may express interest to the Steering Committee or party leader in consideration as a committee chair, Members may not nominate themselves or others for the final vote conducted by the full Republican Conference. This vote may be held by secret ballot on demand of a Member with support from five other Members.[23] For elections with more than two candidates where no Member receives a majority of the vote, the candidate receiving the least amount of votes is eliminated during each round of balloting. If any chair nominee fails to secure the support of a majority of the Republican Conference, the entity responsible for the nomination shall be directed to submit a new name for consideration. Any vacancies that arise are to be filled in the matter they were initially appointed and, "wherever possible" within 30 calendar days during which Congress is in session.[24]

Limitations

Conference Rule 15 limits Republican Members to serving as chair of only one standing committee at a time. This limitation does not apply to the Committees on Ethics or House Administration, nor any joint, select, or special committees. The rule may also be waived by approval of both the Steering Committee and the Republican Conference. In addition to these limitations, Republican Members may not be elected to serve as a committee chair for more than three terms (six years).

[22] Republican Conference Rule 4.

[23] Republican Conference Rule 8.

[24] Republican Conference Rule 16 establishes the 30-session-day window for filling a vacancy and directs that such vacancy be filled under the procedures defined in Conference Rule 14, as discussed in this section.

Committee Vice Chair Designation

The chair of each standing committee designates a vice chair for purposes of presiding over meetings when the chair is absent, pursuant to House Rule XI, clause 2(d). Both the Republican Conference and Democratic Caucus provide more specific procedures, requirements, and limitations when designating this position. The Democratic Caucus also provides for the designation of a vice ranking member when the party is in the minority. The Republican Conference does not provide for an equivalent position in its rules.

Republican Conference Rules give the party's Steering Committee the optional right to designate committee vice chairs and that such appointments may be made without regard to seniority. If the Steering Committee opts not to designate a vice chair for a committee, the responsibility falls to the committee chair under House Rules. Unlike other committee leadership positions within the Republican Conference, there is no stated term limit on service as a vice chair.

Within the Democratic Caucus, the Democrats on the committee are responsible for electing vice chairs when in the majority and vice ranking members when in the minority. As with most other elected positions with the caucus, when there is more than one candidate for the position the vote is held by secret ballot unless waived.[25] To be eligible to serve in either role, Members must have been on the committee for less than five terms and may only hold the position for one term. These restrictions reflect the Caucus's intent that the positions serve as "an opportunity for a junior Member to gain insight and experience into the workings of the committee."[26]

Subcommittee Assignments

Just as the House divides its workload amongst its committees, so in turn do most committees have subcommittees that further specialize in aspects of their parent entity's jurisdiction. Standing committees are permitted to establish five subcommittees (Rule X, clause 5(d)(1)). A sixth subcommittee is permitted on any committee choosing to have a dedicated committee on oversight (Rule X, clause 5(d)(2)(A)).[27] Six House standing committees are specifically permitted a higher number of subcommittees, as listed in **Table 5**. The Committee on Appropriations has the largest allotment of permitted subcommittees, primarily to accommodate a structure of one subcommittee dedicated to each of the 12 regular appropriations bills.[28]

[25] Under Democratic Caucus Rule 3(C), a candidate must receive majority support from the committee caucus to be elected. If more than two candidates are under consideration, the Member receiving the least amount of votes is eliminated each round until one nominee receives majority support. If multiple candidates are tied in receiving the fewest votes in a round, neither is eliminated. If those candidates tie for the least amount of votes in a second round of voting, they are both eliminated from consideration moving into the next vote.

[26] Democratic Caucus Rule 21(D).

[27] House Rule X, clause 2(b)(2) requires that each standing committee (except the Committee on Appropriations) with more than 20 Members must either establish an oversight subcommittee or assign oversight duties to its subcommittees in their respective jurisdictions. The allowance of a sixth oversight committee under House Rule X, clause 5(d)(A), effectively protects committees with larger membership from otherwise losing a subcommittee to the requirements of clause 2(b)(2).

[28] See CRS Report RL31572, *Appropriations Subcommittee Structure: History of Changes from 1920 to 2021*, by James V. Saturno, Appropriations Subcommittee Structure: History of Changes from 1920 to 2021, by James V. Saturno.

Table 5. Number of Subcommittees Permitted for the 117th Congress

beyond the maximum five set by House Rule X, clause 5(d)(1)

Committee	Number of Subcommittees Permitted
Appropriations	13
Armed Services	7
Foreign Affairs	7
Oversight and Reform	7
Transportation	6
Agriculture	6

Source: House Rule X, clause 5(d)(1) and H.Res. 8, Section 3(n).

The size and ratio of party Membership on each subcommittee are controlled by the majority party of its parent committee. Ratios on subcommittees usually reflect the ratio of parties on the full committee, resulting in majority party control of each subcommittee as well. While Republican Conference Rules are silent on these aspects of subcommittees, Democratic Caucus rules prescribe further parameters. Specifically, Democratic Caucus Rule 27 limits individual subcommittee Membership to no more than 60% of the full committee and requires that subcommittee ratios "shall be no less favorable to the Democratic Party than the ratio of the full committee."

Subcommittee Chair Appointments

The formal selection process for subcommittee chairs varies between the two parties, with the Democratic Caucus establishing a bidding process for each committee and the Republican Conference empowering committee chairs to determine selection procedures. In practice, both parties look to seniority as the primary factor in the appointment of subcommittee chairs, though candidates are also subject to additional votes of approval within their respective party organizations.

Democratic Caucus Rules

Within the Democratic Caucus, Members of each committee bid for subcommittee chairs in the order of their seniority on the full committee. (The Committee on Appropriations may alternatively use subcommittee seniority as the order for bidding amongst its membership.) The full committee chair does not bid to be a subcommittee chair. The interested candidate must then be approved by a majority of their fellow Democratic committee Members present and voting (i.e., the committee caucus), in a vote, technically directed to be taken by secret ballot. For the majority of subcommittee chair candidates, approval by the committee caucus marks the end of the process. However, under certain conditions, subcommittee chair candidates are further subject to additional approval votes by the Steering and Policy Committee and the full Democratic Caucus.

Once subcommittee chairs have been approved by the committee caucus, they are submitted to the Steering and Policy Committee for review (with the exception of the Committee on Ethics). Per Democratic Caucus rules, the Steering and Policy Committee must vote to approve subcommittee chair nominees meeting certain criteria:

- Subcommittee chairs nominated within exclusive committees (except the Committee on Rules); or
- Subcommittee chairs nominated to any non-exclusive committee, for which the nominee is also a Member of an exclusive committee (except the Committee on Rules).

In considering these nominations, the Steering and Policy Committee is directed to "consider all relevant factors" of a nominee, "including merit, length of service on the committee, degree of commitment to the Democratic agenda, and the diversity of the caucus."[29] Any debate on the nominee is limited to 60 minutes, equally divided by proponents and opponents, but can be extended by vote of the full Democratic Caucus. At the conclusion of debate, the vote is taken by secret ballot.[30]

The full Democratic Caucus may also be required to approve subcommittee chair nominees. Scenarios where such a vote is applicable include when:

- Recommended by the Steering and Policy Committee;
- 50 or more Members submit a written request to the Caucus Chair within three legislative days of a nominee being submitted to the Steering and Policy Committee;
- The nominee to be a subcommittee chair for a non-exclusive committee is also a Member on an exclusive committee (except the Committee on Rules) and has been approved by the Steering and Policy Committee; or
- The nominee had been convicted of a felony or censured by the House in the preceding Congress.

Consideration by the Democratic Caucus follows the same procedures as described for Steering and Policy Committee votes, including 60 minutes of debate, equally divided, and use of secret balloting. If a candidate is rejected at any stage of consideration, the bidding process starts over from the beginning.

In general, Members of the Democratic Caucus may not hold more than one subcommittee chair position. Caucus Rule 22(D) prohibits full committee chairs from also serving as a subcommittee chair for any committee except for the chairs of the Appropriations, Ethics, House Administration, or joint committees. Caucus Rule 28(F) limits Members to serving as chair for only one subcommittee. This rule does not apply to subcommittee chair positions on the committees on Ethics, House Administration, or joint committees.

When a subcommittee chair vacancy arises prior to March 1st of the second session of the Congress, it is filled by the same process described above unless Democratic committee Members approve different procedures by unanimous consent.[31] For vacancies occurring after that date, bidding may be done by subcommittee seniority (as opposed to committee seniority) and must be approved by majority vote of the Steering and Policy Committee (Caucus Rule 29(A)(3)). Subcommittee chairs appointed after March 1 of the second session are also exempt for the remainder of the Congress from Caucus Rules otherwise limiting serving as chair to multiple committee or subcommittees.

[29] House Democratic Caucus Rule 28(C)(2), p. 28.

[30] The procedures in this paragraph follow those provided in Caucus Rule 21, as directed by Caucus Rule 28(C)(3).

[31] Subcommittee chair vacancies arising at any time within the Committee on Appropriations must be filled within 30 calendar days, pursuant to Caucus Rule 29(B).

Republican Conference Rules

The Republican Conference empowers its committee chairs to determine the process by which subcommittee chairs are selected with few limitations. Pursuant to Conference Rule 19(a)(1), committee chairs must provide written procedures to Republican committee Members prior to the party's committee organization meeting. The chair's proposed procedures may be amended or rejected by a majority vote of the committee's party membership. For the Committee on Appropriations, the chair nominates subcommittee chairs who are then subject to approval by the Republican Steering Committee. Any vacancies that may arise are filled in the same manner as laid out by committee chairs.

While committee chairs may determine the selection process for subcommittee chairs, Republican Conference rules also place further limitations to service in such positions. As with other committee leadership positions, Republican Members cannot serve as a subcommittee chair (or ranking minority member) for more than three consecutive terms (six years), pursuant to Conference Rule 14(e). Additionally, no Member may serve concurrently as chair of more than one subcommittee (or standing committee) unless a waiver has been granted by the Republican Conference. This limitation does not apply to subcommittee chair positions on the Committees on Ethics, House Administration, joint or select committees.

Subcommittee Assignment Procedures

House Rules limit Members to serving on not more than four subcommittees of standing committees, but also provide that each party caucus may propose exceptions to this limitation for their respective Memberships.[32] As a result, it is possible for Members to serve on more than four subcommittees, subject to the approval of their party caucus. Exceptions to this four subcommittee limit are commonly referred to as waivers. Waivers are issued to Members on a case by case basis depending on the needs of the party and vacancies to be filled.

Both the Democratic Caucus and Republican Conference have rules addressing the appointment of Members and chairs to subcommittees. The Republican Conference largely defers authority to committee chairs, when in the majority, in making these assignments. In contrast, the Democratic Caucus has explicit procedures for the appointment of subcommittee Members and chairs. Unlike committee assignments, subcommittee assignments are not approved on the House floor. Committees usually vote to approve these assignments at the organizational meeting of the committee held at the beginning of a new Congress.

Democratic Caucus Rules

Following the appointment of subcommittee chairs, House Democrats use a five-step bidding process to assign their Members to subcommittees. The procedures, detailed in Caucus Rule 30(D), are designed to credit prior committee service and committee seniority while also ensuring that new committee Members are guaranteed at least one subcommittee assignment. In the steps below, Members bid on one subcommittee vacancy per round in order of their seniority on the committee, as follows:

1. Members who served on the committee in the previous Congress may choose to retain one[33] of their prior subcommittee assignments. Subcommittee chairs do not

[32] House Rule X, clause 5(b)(2)(A).

[33] If a subcommittee from the prior Congress is divided into two new subcommittees, the Member is allowed to bid on

participate in this round (with the exception of the Committee on Appropriations).

2. Members eligible to participate in step 1 who opted out of retaining an existing assignment may bid on one available subcommittee slot.
3. New committee Members then may bid on one available seat (and are guaranteed one assignment under Caucus rules).
4. All committee Members may then continue to bid on available subcommittee slots in rounds in order of their seniority on the full committee.[34] Subcommittee chairs may participate in bidding at this point.
5. If any subcommittee slots remain, Members serving on the committee on a temporary basis may bid on vacancies in order of their seniority on the committee.

Following each bid for assignment, the committee caucus must approve the request. Under Caucus Rule 3, these elections are conducted by secret ballot and subject to majority approval unless waived. Given the number of assignments to be filled and the fact that only one Member per one assignment can be considered at a time, the committee caucus is likely to agree to these assignments without objection in most cases, approving all bids at the conclusion of the process. The full committee will then approve both parties' slate of subcommittee assignments at its organizational meeting. Any vacancies that later arise in subcommittees are filled by the same process above, though the committee caucus may determine different procedures by unanimous consent.

Democratic Caucus Rule 31 reinforces the limitation in House rules on Member service to no more than four subcommittees. Members found in violation by a survey of the Caucus are required to comply within 30 calendar days or the matter will be referred to the Steering and Policy Committee for disposition. However, this four-subcommittee rule can be waived for individual Members by the Caucus on a case by case basis.

Republican Conference Rules

For House Republicans, the subcommittee assignment process may vary from committee to committee and from Congress to Congress. In contrast with the multi-step bidding process codified in the Democratic Caucus's Rules, the Republican Conference gives committee chairs the authority to establish the process by which subcommittee assignments are made. The only written requirement placed on committee chairs appears in Conference Rule 19(a)(1), which directs that written procedures be provided to Republican committee Members prior to the party's committee organization meeting. The rule also provides that amendments to the chair's procedures can be adopted by a majority of the committee's Republican Members.

Subcommittee Vice Chair Designation

House Rule XI, clause 2(d) requires that committee chairs appoint a vice chair for each subcommittee (as well as for the full committee itself, as discussed previously). Vice chairs are

both new entities. This round of bidding within the Committee on Appropriations allows prior Members to retain two prior subcommittee assignments.

[34] For the Committee on Appropriations, bidding continues in committee rank order for Members who only have one subcommittee assignment, then opens up to all committee Members for bidding on remaining slots. As noted previously, continuing Members of the Committee on Appropriations may opt to retain two subcommittee assignments in the first step of the bidding process.

selected from the Members of the majority party on each subcommittee for the purpose of presiding over meetings when the subcommittee chair is absent. As previously discussed, the Democratic Caucus and Republican Conference consider different criteria in selecting full committee vice chairs, however, both entities' rules are silent on the appointment of subcommittee vice chairs. As a result, such appointments remain at the discretion of each committee's chair.

Non-Standing Committee Assignments

In addition to the standing committees of the House, there are also various other types of non-standing committees that have special requirements as to the makeup of their membership. In general, the Speaker appoints Members to these committees in consultation with the minority leader and in accordance with any other requirements specified in the establishing legislation. Democratic Caucus Rule 33 encourages the Speaker to give "due consideration" to all Members expressing interest in being appointed to these committees. The rule further specifies that all such appointments are for the duration of one Congress and all seats are treated as vacant at the start of a new Congress. Republican Conference Rule 13 reaffirms the right of the Speaker to appoint Members to all non-standing committees as specified under law. In general, select and joint committees have additional requirements placed on the composition of their respective memberships. The composition of and party rules relating to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence is discussed below. More details on the composition of joint committees can be found in **Appendix B** and regarding temporary select committees in **Appendix C**.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

The size and composition of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence is defined by House Rule X, clause 11, but can be adjusted by unanimous consent.[35] Under the rule, the committee shall not have more than 22 Members and is subject to the following requirements:[36]

- Not more than 13 Members from the same party;
- At least one Member from the Committee on Appropriations;
- At least one Member from the Committee on Armed Services;
- At least one Member from the Committee on Foreign Affairs; and
- At least one Member from the Committee on the Judiciary.

Ex officio membership is also given to the Speaker and minority leader (neither of whom is given a vote during committee business). Members may not serve on the committee for more than four Congresses within a period of six Congresses, though this limitation does not apply to the chair or ranking member.[37]

Both the Democratic Caucus and Republican Conference have additional rules that apply to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Democratic Caucus Rule 18(D) limits Members to one standing committee assignment while also serving on Intelligence. As previously noted, while

[35] See *Precedents of the U.S. House of Representatives*, vol. 1, ch. 3, §8.8, pp. 308-309.

[36] During the 117th Congress, by unanimous consent the House appointed 23 Members to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, one more than allowed for under the rule. See *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 167 (March 12, 2021), p. H1362.

[37] Service on the committee for only a portion of a Congress also does not count against the four Congress limit.

serving on the committee, Democratic Members may take a leave of absence from their prior committee or subcommittee assignments and have their seniority restored upon return to said committees or subcommittees. Under Republican Conference Rules, Republican chairs and ranking members on Intelligence and its subcommittees are limited to not more than three consecutive terms (six years).

Removal from Committees

The House has the ability to remove a Member from one or more of their committee assignments if a majority seeks to do so. This is usually done in a similar fashion to how committee assignments are made, with the decision to remove first determined by the relevant party caucus and the formal act of removal occurring through the adoption of a simple resolution on the House floor. However, in any case, a majority of the House has the ability to remove a Member from their committee assignments even if not initiated by the Member's own party.[38]

Member committee assignments are also contingent on their continued membership within their party. When a Member switches political parties or chooses to become independent, their existing committee assignments are automatically nullified under House Rule X, clause 5(b)(1). Any further committee assignments are then at the discretion of the party to which the Member has newly affiliated themselves.

Both the Democratic Caucus and Republican Conference vest their respective steering committees with the authority to recommend that a Member be removed from their assigned committees.[39] Such a recommendation is then subject to the approval of the full party caucus or conference. Democratic Caucus Rules 24 and 25 automatically remove a committee or subcommittee chair from that position if the Member is indicted or convicted of a felony imposing a sentence of two or more years.[40] Republican Conference Rule 27 specifies that a member convicted of a felony carrying a sentence of two or more years is to be removed from their committee assignments within 10 legislative days. Under Republican Conference Rule 28, a committee chair censured by the House is automatically removed from their chairmanship.

[38] For example, during the 117th Congress (2020-2021), the House adopted H.Res. 72, to remove Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene from her assigned committees. The resolution to remove a Republican Member from their committee assignments was proposed by a Democrat and adopted without the support of a majority of the Republicans in the House, in a 230-199 vote.

[39] Democratic Caucus Rules 10(C)(2) and Republican Conference Rule 11. In situations where the Republican Conference is considering removing a Member from a standing committee, the committee chair participates as a voting member of the Steering Committee, the entity which takes the preliminary vote on whether to remove.

[40] Democratic Caucus Rule 25 also automatically removes a committee or subcommittee chair if they are censured by the House. Caucus Rules 24 and 25 both automatically reinstates a chair if they are found not guilty or their conviction is overturned, unless the Caucus votes otherwise within 10 legislative days.

Appendix A. Composition of Party Steering Committees

Table A-1. Republican Steering Committee Membership

Member
Speaker of the House (when the Republican Party is in the majority)
Republican Leader
Republican Whip
Chief Deputy Whip
Chair of the Republican Conference
Chair of the National Republican Congressional Committee
Former Chair of the National Republican Congressional Committee
Chair of the Committee on Policy
Vice-Chair of the Republican Conference
Secretary of the Republican Conference
Member designated by the Speaker/Leader
Sophomore Class Representative
Freshman Class Representative
Dean of the House (when a Member of the House Republican Conference)
Region I Representative
Region II Representative
Region III Representative
Region IV Representative
Region V Representative
Region VI Representative
Region VII Representative
Region VIII Representative
Region IX Representative
Region X Representative
Region XI Representative
Region XII Representative
Small State Representative
Texas Representative
Texas Representative II
Florida Representative
Ohio Representative
Rotating Standing committee chair[a]

Source: House Republican Conference Rule 11(B), at https://www.gop.gov/conference-rules-of-the-117th-congress/.

Notes: Republican Members appointed to the House Republican Conference's Steering Committee for the 117th Congress can be found at https://www.gop.gov/steering-committee/. Pursuant to Conference Rule 11(d), when the Republican Party is in the majority in the House, the Speaker has 4 votes and the Republican leader has 2 votes in the Steering Committee. When the party is in the minority, the Republican leader has 4 votes and the Republican Whip has 2 votes.

a. The chair of a standing committee participates in the Steering Committee when decisions are being made to elect or remove Members from that standing committee.

Table A-2. Democratic Steering & Policy Committee Membership

Member
Speaker of the House (when the Democratic Party is in the majority)
Co-Chair for Steering
Co-Chair for Policy
Co-Chair
Democratic Leader
Democratic Whip
Assistant Speaker
Caucus Chair
Caucus Vice Chair
Chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee
Co-Chair, Democratic Policy and Communications Committee
Co-Chair, Democratic Policy and Communications Committee
Co-Chair, Democratic Policy and Communications Committee
Co-Chair, Democratic Policy and Communications Committee
Caucus Leadership Representative
Freshman Leadership Representative
Chair, Committee on Caucus Procedures
Parliamentarian
Senior Chief Deputy Whip
Senior Chief Deputy Whip
Chief Deputy Whip
Chief Deputy Whip
Chief Deputy Whip
Chief Deputy Whip
Chief Deputy Whip
Chief Deputy Whip
Chief Deputy Whip
Freshman Class Representative

Member
Region 1 Representative
Region 2 Representative
Region 3 Representative
Region 4 Representative
Region 5 Representative
Region 6 Representative
Region 7 Representative
Region 8 Representative
Region 9 Representative
Region 10 Representative
Region 11 Representative
Region 12 Representative
Chair, Committee on Appropriations
Chair, Committee on the Budget
Chair, Committee on Rules
Chair, Committee on Energy & Commerce
Chair, Committee on Financial Services
Chair, Committee on Ways & Means
Up to 15 Members appointed by the Speaker

Sources: CRS analysis of House Democratic Caucus Rules (at https://www.dems.gov/rules-of-the-democratic-caucus) and press releases by House Democratic leadership offices.

Notes: The House Democratic Caucus does not make public the membership of its Steering and Policy Committee.

Appendix B. Composition of Joint Committees

Joint Committees are established by law and are composed of members from both the House and Senate. In the 117th Congress (2021-2022), four joint committees are in operation. The Speaker appoints Members to these committees in consultation with the minority leader and in accordance with requirements specified in the respective committee's establishing legislation. The full composition of each joint committee is listed below.

Table B-1. Joint Committee on Taxation

26 U.S.C. §8002

Five Members from the Senate Committee on Finance	Five Members from the House Committee on Ways & Means
Three majority Members & two minority Members	Three majority Members & two minority Members

Table B-2. Joint Committee on Printing

44 U.S.C. §101

Five Members from the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration	Five Members from the House Committee on House Administration[a]
Four Members & the Chair of the committee	Four Members & the Chair of the committee

a. 2 U.S.C. §132b references the House Committee on House Oversight. The committee's name was changed to the Committee on House Administration by H.Res. 5 during the 106th Congress (1999-2000).

Table B-3. Joint Committee on the Library

2 U.S.C. §132b

Five Members from the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration	Five Members from the House Committee on House Administration[a]
Four Members and the Chair of the committee	Four Members and the Chair of the committee

a. 2 U.S.C. §132b references the House Committee on House Oversight. The committee's name was changed to the Committee on House Administration by H.Res. 5 during the 106th Congress (1999-2000).

Table B-4. Joint Economic Committee

15 U.S.C. §1024

Ten Members of the Senate	Ten Members of the House
Six majority Members and four minority Members	Six majority Members and four minority Members

Appendix C. Composition of Temporary House Select Committees

Table C-1. Select Committee on the Climate Crisis

Established by H.Res. 6, Sec. 104(f), 116th Congress (2019-2020)

15 Committee Members	
9 Members appointed by the Speaker, one of which is designated as Chair.	6 Members appointed on recommendation of the Minority Leader.

Note: The Select Committee on the Climate Crisis was continued by H.Res. 8, Sec. 4(d), during the 117th Congress (2021-2022).

Table C-2. Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress

Established by H.Res. 6, Sec. 201, 116th Congress (2019-2020)

12 Committee Members	
6 Members appointed by the Speaker, of which • at least 1 Member serving in their first term; • at least 1 Member from the Committee on Rules; • at least 1 Member from the Committee on House Administration; and • 1 Member designated as Chair.	6 Members appointed on recommendation of the Minority Leader, of which • at least 1 Member serving in their first term; • at least 1 Member from the Committee on Rules; • at least 1 Member from the Committee on House Administration; and • 1 Member designated as Vice Chair.

Note: The Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress was continued by H.Res. 8, Sec. 4(e), during the 117th Congress (2021-2022).

Table C-3. Select Committee Economic Disparity and Fairness in Growth

Established by H.Res. 8, Sec. 4(g), 117th Congress (2021-2022)

15 Committee Members	
9 Members appointed by the Speaker. Chair is also designated by the Speaker.	6 Members appointed on recommendation of the Minority Leader.

Author Information

Michael Greene
Analyst on Congress and the Legislative Process

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