

PUBLICATION

Leadership Changes in Congress for the 116th Session U.S. House of Representatives

Authors: Sheila P. Burke

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With Democrats taking control of the House in the midterm elections, Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) will likely become Speaker of the House. Minority Leader Pelosi secured the party nomination for Speaker in a closed-door caucus vote of 203 to 32, but must still secure a majority full House vote on January 3, 2019. On December 12, Minority Leader Pelosi announced she would agree to serve no more than four years as Speaker in order to secure additional votes for the position. No other Democrats have announced a run for Speaker.

Other key Democratic leadership contenders include Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD), who is running unopposed for Majority Leader, and Rep. Jim Clyburn (D-SC), who is running unopposed for Minority Whip; Rep. Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), who ran unopposed for Assistant Democratic Leader; and Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), who won the Caucus Chair race on a 123 to 113 vote against Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA).

Speaker Paul Ryan's (R-WI) retirement has opened up changes in the House Republican leadership. Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) was elected 159 to 43 as Minority Leader with Speaker Ryan's endorsement. Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA) ran unopposed for Minority Whip and Rep. Liz Cheney (R-WY) ran unopposed for Conference Chair after Rep. Cathy McMorris Rogers (R-WA) dropped out of the race.

The election will result in a number of significant House committee leadership changes for the 116th Congress. Here are the expected House Committee leaders as currently announced.

116th Congress Committee	Chairman	Ranking Republican
Agriculture	Collin Peterson (Minn.)	Mike Conaway (Texas)
Appropriations	Nita Lowey (N.Y.)	Kay Granger (Texas)
Armed Services	Adam Smith (Wash.)	Mac Thornberry (Texas)
Budget	John Yarmuth (Ky.)*	Steve Womack (Ark.)
Education and Labor	Bobby Scott (Va.)	Virginia Foxx (N.C.)
Energy and Commerce	Frank Pallone (N.J.)	Greg Walden (Ore.)

Ethics		
Financial Services	Maxine Waters (Calif.)	Patrick McHenry (N.C.)
Foreign Affairs	Eliot Engel (N.Y.)	Mike McCaul (Texas)
Homeland Security	Bennie Thompson (Miss.)	Mike Rogers (Ala.)
House Administration	Zoe Lofgren (Calif.)*	Rodney Davis (Ill.)
Intelligence	Adam Schiff (Calif.)*	Devin Nunes (Calif.)
Judiciary	Jerrold Nadler (N.Y.)	Doug Collins (Ga.)
Natural Resources	Raúl Grijalva (Ariz.)	Rob Bishop (Utah)
Oversight and Government Reform	Elijah Cummings (Md.)	Jim Jordan (Ohio)
Rules	Jim McGovern (Mass.)*	
Science, Space & Technology	Eddie Bernice Johnson (Texas)	Frank Lucas (Okla.)
Small Business	Nydia Velázquez (N.Y.)	Steve Chabot (Ohio)
Transportation & Infrastructure	Peter DeFazio (Ore.)	Sam Graves (Mo.)
Veterans' Affairs	Mark Takano (Calif.)	Phil Roe (Tenn.)
Ways and Means	Richard Neal (Mass.)	Kevin Brady (Texas)

Note: Bolded are new top members; asterisks are based on reporting; Democrats' picks are subject to caucus approval; Democrats plan to change the name of the Education and Workforce Committee.

Sources: Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) Nov. 30 press release; Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) Dec. 12 [press release](#) and Dec. 11 [press release](#)

U.S. Senate

With Republicans maintaining control of the Senate, party leadership will not change significantly. In addition, most committees will maintain their current chairs and ranking members in the 116th Congress. Here are the expected Senate committee leaders as currently announced.

116th Congress Committee	Chairman	Ranking Democrat
Aging		Bob Casey (Pa.)
Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry	Pat Roberts (Kan.)*	Debbie Stabenow (Mich.)
Appropriations	Richard Shelby (Ala.)*	Patrick Leahy (Vt.)
Armed Services	Jim Inhofe (Okla.)*	Jack Reed (R.I.)
Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs	Mike Crapo (Idaho)*	Sherrod Brown (Ohio)
Budget	Mike Enzi (Wyo.)*	Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.)
Commerce, Science & Transportation	Roger Wicker (Miss.)*	Maria Cantwell (Wash.)
Energy & Natural Resources	Lisa Murkowski (Alaska)*	Joe Manchin (W.Va.)
Environment & Public Works	John Barrasso (Wyo.)*	Tom Carper (Del.)
Ethics		Chris Coons (Del.)
Finance	Charles Grassley (Iowa)*	Ron Wyden (Ore.)
Foreign Relations	James Risch (Idaho)*	Bob Menendez (N.J.)
Health, Education, Labor & Pensions	Lamar Alexander (Tenn.)*	Patty Murray (Wash.)

Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs	Ron Johnson (Wis.)*	Gary Peters (Mich.)
Indian Affairs	John Hoeven (N.D.)*	Tom Udall (N.M.)
Intelligence	Richard Burr (N.C.)*	Mark Warner (Va.)
Judiciary	Lindsey Graham (S.C.)*	Dianne Feinstein (Calif.)
Rules & Administration	Roy Blunt (Mo.)*	Amy Klobuchar (Minn.)
Small Business & Entrepreneurship		Ben Cardin (Md.)
Veterans' Affairs	Johnny Isakson (Ga.)*	Jon Tester (Mont.)

Note: Bolded are new top members; asterisks are based on reporting; Democrats' picks subject to caucus approval.

Source: Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) Dec. 13 [press release](#)