

The background of the cover is a photograph of the interior of the U.S. Capitol dome, looking up at the ornate, coffered ceiling. In the center of the dome is a large circular fresco depicting various figures in classical attire. The title 'CQ' is printed in a large, stylized, maroon serif font in the upper left corner.

CQ

GUIDE TO THE NEW CONGRESS

Election results and analysis, profiles of new members
and a preview of the 110th Congress

CQ TODAY

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FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

GO GUIDE TO THE NEW CONGRESS

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BUILDING BRIDGES, OR BRAWLING?

The parties will need to cooperate to accomplish anything in the 110th Congress. Democrats pledge they are not out to settle scores, and President Bush was known as a pragmatic governor. But their core constituencies may have something else in mind. **p. 4**

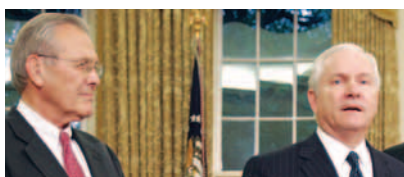
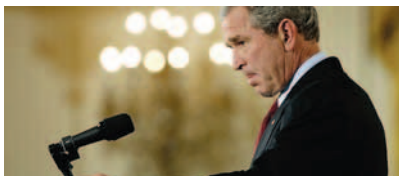


THE SENATE: STUCK IN THE MIDDLE

During the Republicans' modern heyday of unified control of government, the Senate was the weak link in the GOP's effort to push a conservative agenda. In the new Congress, the filibuster will prevent either party from pushing through its priorities without compromise. **p. 8**

THE HOUSE: DEMOCRATIC POWER PLATFORM

For six years, the House was President Bush's handmaid. With the Democrats solidly in control for the next two years as his presidency winds down, the chamber will become Bush's chief source of irritation despite pledges of bipartisanship from both parties. **p. 15**



FINAL DAYS

Confirmation hearings for a new Defense secretary will be among the top items on the agenda in the lame duck session before the 109th Congress adjourns later this year. Spending bills, trade legislation, and tax breaks also could see action. **p. 14**

From the Editor

The nation's experiment with unified government has come to an abrupt end. Democrats have taken control of the House for the first time since 1994 and appear to have taken over the Senate by a single seat. At best, Republicans' hopes now rest with a recount in Virginia's Senate race to produce a majority that would depend on Vice President Dick Cheney's tie-breaking vote. In any event, the Bush White House will spend the last two years of the president's second term in a decidedly different power relationship with the legislative branch of government.

No doubt, top-level administration officials are spending this week the same way as readers of this publication: learning who will be the new chairmen of committees, evaluating their political agendas and trying to plan for new legislative priorities.

This guide is your first look at the people and politics that will drive the action on Capitol Hill. You can read about each committee, every new chairman and each freshman. CQ reporters also analyze changes to Washington's power structure and party leadership dynamics.

Deadline requirements meant this issue was produced through the day on Wednesday, so some articles and charts will not reflect the latest calls. But updates can be found online at CQPolitics.com.

—David Rapp, Editor

110th Congress, 1st Session

	HOUSE	SENATE
Democrats	229	50
Republicans	195	49
Independents	0	1
Not called	11	0

The House races that are not called include those that were too close to declare a winner and two seats, in Louisiana and Texas, that will be decided in runoff elections.

Democrats have been declared the victors in two close Senate races. A recount is likely in Virginia and the incumbent Republican in Montana has refused to concede.

AGENDA FOR THE 110TH CONGRESS

Democrats Claim Majority, Inherit Leadership Burdens

BY JOHN COCHRAN, CQ STAFF WRITER

After more than a decade out of power, the Democratic Party rides into the majority next year in the House and Senate on a resounding popular rebuke of GOP rule. The victory was wider than even many Democrats had dared to predict, and they embraced it as a mandate to take Washington in a fundamentally new direction.

"Democrats promise to work together in a bipartisan way for all Americans," the presumptive new Speaker, Nancy Pelosi of California, told a cheering crowd in Washington early Wednesday. "Democrats intend to lead the most open, the most honest and the most ethical Congress in history."

The Democratic gains were, in many ways, immediately transforming for Washington, running through the Republican Party with devastating effect. By midday Wednesday, Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld, a primary architect of the deeply unpopular war in Iraq, was out.

J. Dennis Hastert of Illinois, the longest-serving GOP House Speaker in history, announced he would not run for minority leader, and his caucus braced for a leadership fight that promises to become a proxy debate over the Republican Party's agenda and its ideological positioning.

But the biggest challenges, the things that had most burdened the Republican majority, still remain — and Democrats now must share responsibility for addressing them. The Iraq war in particular, which more than any other factor cost the GOP control of Congress, will hang over the 110th Congress. There are no good options for extricating the United States from that conflict, and no consensus in either party about how to proceed.

Other difficult foreign policy problems loom, beginning with the nuclear ambitions of North Korea and Iran, and there will be continued fears of terrorist attacks. Budgets are tight, and the federal deficit is expected to increase in coming years, which would leave even less money for discretionary spending, without tax increases or budget cuts.

The window for getting anything done is small: a year, perhaps less, before both parties hunker down for the wide-open presidential race in 2008. "It's a heck of a mess," said Lawrence Jacobs, a political scientist at the University of Minnesota. "This is not an environment where there's a lot of opportunity for bold initiatives."

How productive the 110th Congress will be in the face of those difficulties — whether compromise or conflict rules the days and months ahead — depends on the lessons that Democrats, Republicans and President Bush choose to take from this week's elections.

Bush, in a news conference Wednesday, pledged to set aside the animosity from this particularly ugly campaign season and work with



DCCC Chairman Rahm Emanuel of Illinois, Pelosi, Reid and DSCC Chairman Charles E. Schumer of New York celebrate their gains.

congressional Democrats to address Iraq and other issues. "I've been around politics a long time," he said. "I understand when campaigns end and I know when governing begins. . . . If you hold grudges in this line of work, you're never going to get anything done. And my intention is to get some things done, and soon."

Bush has shown a pragmatic streak and a willingness to reach across party lines, many analysts note, beginning with his time as Texas governor, a tenure he cited during his news conference. But in recent years, he has preferred to dictate to lawmakers rather than work with them. In his news conference Wednesday, he pledged to find "common ground" with Democrats without compromising his principles, although he seemed to still be processing what he called the "thumping" he and his party have taken.

Despite their victories, Democrats will still need Republican votes to get anything done, and whether the GOP will be willing to cooperate with them is far from clear. They, too, are digesting their defeat, and they first must settle among themselves the question of why they lost Tuesday, beyond the public's obvious frustration with the war in Iraq.

Conservatives in the House were quick to chalk up the loss to the party abandoning conservative principles of limited government and low spending. They signaled clearly that going along with the Democratic agenda is not their idea for winning back the majority. Two leaders of the conservative Republican Study Committee — Mike Pence of Indiana and John Shadegg of Arizona — quickly positioned themselves to run for the No. 1 and 2 spots in the House caucus. "If we are accommodationists, I think our base stays disenfranchised," said Rep. Tom Feeney, a conservative from Florida.

Like Bush, Democrats, led by Pelosi and presumptive Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., have expressed determination to change the tone in Washington and work across the aisle.

"We know one party can't accomplish anything," Reid said. "I want to work with [Republicans] to try to get things done."

So far, Democrats have shown remarkable discipline in choosing popular, centrist issues to run on and recruiting moderate candidates. But they will have their own challenges mediating among factions within their own party, with the moderates who played such an important part in expanding their majority potentially clashing with more liberal members of the caucus, including perhaps old bulls who are expected to chair key House and Senate committees. There also is pent-up demand among the party's most loyal liberal voters for bold moves to the left on health care, the environment and other issues, as well as a showdown with Bush, a figure many on the left have come to loathe.

"The question is whether Nancy Pelosi can master the factionalism in her party better than the Republicans could manage their factions in the 109th," said William Connelly, a political scientist at Washington and Lee University. "The Republicans were unable to govern themselves in the run-up to the elections, let alone the country."

And Democrats must do it all while maintaining impeccable ethical standards, after hammering Republicans for a string of scandals and pledging to clean up Congress.

Pressure To Produce

Control of the Senate was uncertain until late Wednesday, when Democrat Jim Webb finally clinched a victory in the razor-close Virginia Senate race. Besides Virginia, Democrats picked up five other seats — Montana, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. In Montana, incumbent Republican Sen. Conrad Burns signaled that he may challenge the outcome and had not conceded, nor did Republican Sen. George Allen in Virginia.

The margin will be close in the Senate and Vice President Dick Cheney is likely to remain a potential deciding vote on issues that split the chamber. In the House, the elections gave Democrats a slightly wider margin than Republicans now hold but it, too, is close.

Democrats have promised to use their new power to get tough on oversight of the executive branch, digging into issues they say the Republican Congress let slide. This includes how money has been spent in Iraq, for example, and in the aftermath of last year's Hurricane Katrina. Many observers expect oversight to be the focus of the Democrats in the new Congress.

But pressure will be on Democrats, too, after years of throwing rocks at the Republican majority and months of campaign promises to change Washington's culture, to show that they can govern. That is particularly true now that they control the legislative branch.

That means producing some legislation of substance — even beyond the immediate action items that House Democrats have pledged to take on, such as raising the minimum wage, cutting the interest rate on student loans and giving the Medicare program the power to negotiate prescription drug prices, analysts said.

"If I were Nancy Pelosi, I would want to figure out what I could get bipartisan deals with George Bush on," said Steve Elmendorf, a Democratic strategist who was chief of staff to Pelosi's predecessor as Democratic leader, former Rep. Richard A. Gephardt (1977-2005) of Missouri.

Optimists inside Congress and out do see openings for some deal-making next year, at least in the short window before the 2008 presidential races heat up. Many of the incoming members are

moderates in highly competitive districts. In the House, the ranks of the moderate Blue Dog Caucus are expected to increase from 37 members to 44 or 45. Those members will want to hew close to the center, where it would be easier to find some Republican votes.

The ideological middle "is where our constituents are," said Mike Ross, D-Ark., a Blue Dog. "That's where America is."

Districts that elected moderate representatives in Tuesday's elections — in such states as Indiana, New York and Ohio — are competitive, and members of Congress from those areas are believed to be most vulnerable to challenge in their first term. If Democrats want to hang on to and even widen their majority in the House in 2008, it will be in their best interest to move to the center and avoid what some Republicans say was their party's downfall. "The majority of the American people are centrists, and our party lost many seats because the party was not in touch with what the American people are about," said Delaware Rep. Michael N. Castle, a leading Republican moderate.

Democrats will need to ensure that they hand their moderates some accomplishments to take home and avoid giving the GOP ammunition to attack their party as too liberal.

The fact that there will be no sitting president or vice president on the ballot for 2008 also may argue for some deal-making, said Sen. Robert F. Bennett, R-Utah. In positioning their parties or themselves for the White House, lawmakers on both sides will want to show that they can engage with real problems constructively and get things done, Bennett said.

"There is at least as good a chance that this Congress will be reaching out across the aisle to try to solve problems as there is that there will be continued finger-pointing and gridlock," Bennett said.

The man who is expected to take over as the Republican leader, with Sen. Bill Frist, R-Tenn., retiring, is Mitch McConnell of Kentucky. He is tough and conservative and has shown a willingness to deal with the other side. If anything is going to get done in the Senate, it will depend largely on whether the minority leader McConnell and his counterpart, Reid, can work together.

"My sense of things is that Senator McConnell is open to that," Bennett said. "And I've found, as a fellow Westerner working with Senator Reid on issues that are of importance to both of us, that he is open to that."

Legacy Factor

Many observers expect Bush to be thinking about his place in the history books, and they think he will be willing to compromise with Democrats to salvage something from his final two years in office.

"The Bush administration is going to be anxious to prove they can get some things done, and that means they will sit down with Harry Reid and Nancy Pelosi," said former Bush campaign press secretary Terry Holt, who also was spokesman for former House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas (1985-2003).

Some others doubt that. "He doesn't work with his own party," said James A. Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies at American University.

But there is precedent from earlier in the Bush presidency, as well as his years in Texas: He brokered a deal with Democratic Sen. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts and others to gain support for the 2002 education law known as "No Child Left Behind."

There's also precedent from previous administrations: After losing

Agenda continued on page 6

Agenda *continued from page 5*

the House to Republicans in 1994, President Bill Clinton came back to deal with the GOP, signing the 1996 welfare overhaul legislation (PL 104-193) that alienated members of his party.

The Iraq War is an issue that will get both parties to the table in an effort to find an exit strategy. They are keenly aware that the election turned in great measure on public dissatisfaction with the direction of the war. "And let's remember, who wants to be president with that war on their hands?" said Wendy Schiller, a political scientist at Brown University.

The Iraq Study Group, a bipartisan panel that is supposed to suggest a way forward in Iraq, may provide political cover for both sides to push hard for change, said Democratic strategist Mike Lux. It's headed by two men widely respected in Washington, former Republican Secretary of State James A. Baker III and former Democratic Rep. Lee H. Hamilton of Indiana (1965-99).

Immigration reform is another area in which many observers — and Bush himself — predict that Washington stands a good chance of making progress. Democrats by and large are friendlier to Bush's call for comprehensive immigration overhaul, including a path to citizenship for the estimated 11 million to 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States, than are many in his own party.

Bush said Wednesday that he was already reaching out to Pelosi and others on Capitol Hill to begin working together on issues.

"The message yesterday was clear," he said. "The American people want their leaders in Washington to set aside partisan differences, conduct ourselves in an ethical manner and work together to address the challenges facing our nation."

Democrats have talked a good game about civility and being productive. In their choice of items for the initial agenda, House Democrats have focused on centrist items with fairly wide support, such as increasing the minimum wage. Said James E. Clyburn, D-S.C., chairman of the Democratic Caucus, who hopes to become majority whip, "The country is not in a radical mood."

Although they promise oversight, Pelosi and other Democrats have vowed to handle it with dignity and discipline, not pushing toward impeachment proceedings against the president, for example, no matter how much some liberal voters would like to see it. "Impeachment is off the table," Pelosi said Wednesday. "This election was about the future . . . not about the Republicans."

Rep. Charles B. Rangel of New York, an old-guard Democrat who is expected to take over as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, says he plans a bipartisan retreat for that panel's members, as well as Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson Jr., to find "low-hanging fruit" to address early — issues they could tackle early on with a good chance of success to "create an atmosphere of trust that we haven't had around here in a long time."

"It's not in the best interest of the country or the Democratic Party to see gridlock in the next Congress," Rangel said.

Many observers are dubious that Democrats will find many willing partners among Republicans. Much will depend on the House, which typically sets the agenda for the closely divided Senate. There



The Speaker, shown on Election Night, said he would not run for minority leader in the new Congress.

may be opportunities for assembling centrist coalitions in the Senate, where senators are independent operators and the margin of control rests on a single vote.

The House GOP caucus will be somewhat more conservative. While conservatives lost, moderates took a disproportionately large hit, losing members such as Nancy L. Johnson in Connecticut and Jim Leach in Iowa.

A prominent member of the moderate Republican Mainstreet Partnership, Rep. Thomas M. Davis III of Virginia, said that although Republicans may work with Democrats on specific issues, he is pessimistic about extended cooperation, particularly after watching Democrats, under Pelosi's leadership, dig in and refuse to go along with Republicans. They may instead prefer to stand back and let the Democrats, who are on the hook now, twist in the wind. "My gut is, they'll say, 'You're in charge now. Good luck,'" Davis said.

Many Republicans may calculate that the best way to win back the majority is to highlight their differences on key issues with the Democrats, just as Pelosi and her party did. "I don't think we're going to take back the House of Representatives by cooperating and coordinating with Democrats," said Holt, the former House aide.

Conservatives, like others in Washington, already have their eye on the next presidential campaign. A big goal of congressional conservatives will probably be to lead the party to the right and give encouragement to a conservative presidential candidate who could challenge such moderate presidential hopefuls as Sen. John McCain of Arizona or former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, said Feeney, the Florida congressman. "If House conservatives can take control of the messaging, it will inspire our base, and I think a dark horse conservative candidate can emerge."

And even beyond the political difficulties, as a practical matter there isn't much room for Democrats in Congress to maneuver, beginning with the fact that money will be tight and the federal deficit is expected to increase in coming years.

Democrats will further box themselves in fiscally if they follow through on their pledge to govern their fiscal policy with "pay as you go" rules that require new initiatives not to increase the federal deficit. Rangel, for example, holds out hope of fixing the alternative minimum tax, which is hitting the middle class. But that would be costly: Fixing it would cost an estimated \$1 trillion over 10 years.

And keeping other pledges may not be so easy. Democrats have committed themselves to giving the Medicare program the power to negotiate prescription drug prices with pharmaceutical companies with the goal of getting cheaper drugs for seniors through the drug benefit that Congress added to the program in 2002. But that will be none too easy, raising complicated questions for Congress about how the federal government can act as a broker between drug companies and the individual private plans that handle the benefits for seniors and have so far cut their own deals, said Joe Antos, a health policy expert at the conservative American Enterprise Institute.

For Democrats, elated this week, reality will hit hard and fast. "The expectations of Democrats and the country are huge," said Jacobs of the University of Minnesota. "The opportunities are limited, and the constraints are enormous."

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SENATE

Democrats Holding Tenuous Majority After Elections Transform the Senate

BY MARTIN KADY II, CQ STAFF WRITER

In a time of political upheaval, the new Senate will undoubtedly become the graveyard for each party's big ideas.

Regardless of the ultimate outcome of contested races, there will be no firm governing majority, forcing senators to do as the Founding Fathers intended: Debate monumental issues of the day — in this case, war, taxes and immigration — and then compromise.

Although by Wednesday evening it appeared that Democrats had won control of the chamber, their new majority would disappear if reversals in Virginia or Montana erase apparent victories by challengers Jim Webb and Jon Tester over incumbent Republicans George Allen and Conrad Burns.

With Webb and Tester in the Senate, Democrats would have 51 votes. But should either Allen or Burns ultimately prevail, the chamber would be deadlocked 50-50, with Vice President Dick Cheney effectively giving Republicans control.

The Democrats' resounding victories across the nation on Election Day may have changed the power structure in Washington, but their ideas will not become laws unless they consult with powerful moderates.

"It's the typical muddled situation in the Senate, where you're never sure what will get to a vote and how individual senators will vote," said Steven S. Smith, a political science professor at Washington University in St. Louis. "Neither party can guarantee votes on their most beloved legislation."

The central figures in the Senate drama are incoming Republican Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky and Democratic Leader Harry Reid of Nevada, both of whom are fiercely loyal partisans but also skilled parliamentarians who understand what makes the Senate tick. Reid has said he expects to be majority leader when the disputed elections are settled, but McConnell has not conceded the Senate.

There will be enormous pressure on Reid to promote some of the most liberal components of his party's agenda, such as increasing the minimum wage or rolling back tax breaks for oil companies, even though he has little wiggle room in a chamber that often requires 60 votes to move any substantive legislation. If he is majority leader, Reid also will have to find common ground between a liberal House leadership and a lame-duck White House that could suddenly find fresh ink in its veto pen.

"We know one party can't accomplish anything," Reid said Wednesday. "I want to work with them to try to get things done."

To Republicans, McConnell will be the last line of defense against an invigorated Democratic Party that wants a new plan for the war in Iraq, an overhaul of the Medicare drug benefit and more taxes on the wealthy. Senate Republicans have said they will not bend to a liberal agenda even if they're in the minority.

"You have to recognize you need 60 [votes] to get anything done," said Don Stewart, a spokesman for McConnell. He added, "Reid



Sen. Charles E. Schumer, D-N.Y., left, was all smiles at a news conference Wednesday with Reid.

will have a difficult caucus to manage" because the liberal Democratic base is going to say "dance with the ones who brought you," and new senators like Ohio's Sherrod Brown and Vermont's Bernard Sanders "make [Massachusetts Sen. Edward M.] Kennedy look like a moderate."

A 50-50 Senate would put an unpopular vice president at the center of attention, as Cheney would be called upon to cast tie-breaking votes. Senate Republicans and Democrats were already bickering over whether they would follow the precedent set in 2001, when a deadlocked Senate forced the parties to agree to equal representation on committees but handed the gavels to Republicans because Cheney held the tie-breaking vote.

The Senate realignment also sets the stage for the political resurrection of Trent Lott, R-Miss., the odds-on favorite to become GOP whip. And now that the elections are out of the way, the jockeying in the Senate for the 2008 presidential nominations will be in full swing, meaning presumptive front-runners John McCain, R-Ariz., and Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., could wield enormous influence even though neither occupies a leadership role.

Skeptics say the new power structure is a recipe for gridlock. Democrats' takeover of the House means they are likely to pass defense, appropriations and social policy measures that are anathema to a GOP base reeling from an election rout. The likely incoming Speaker, Nancy Pelosi of California, will probably see her first "100 hours" agenda cool off considerably before it gets taken up by the Senate.

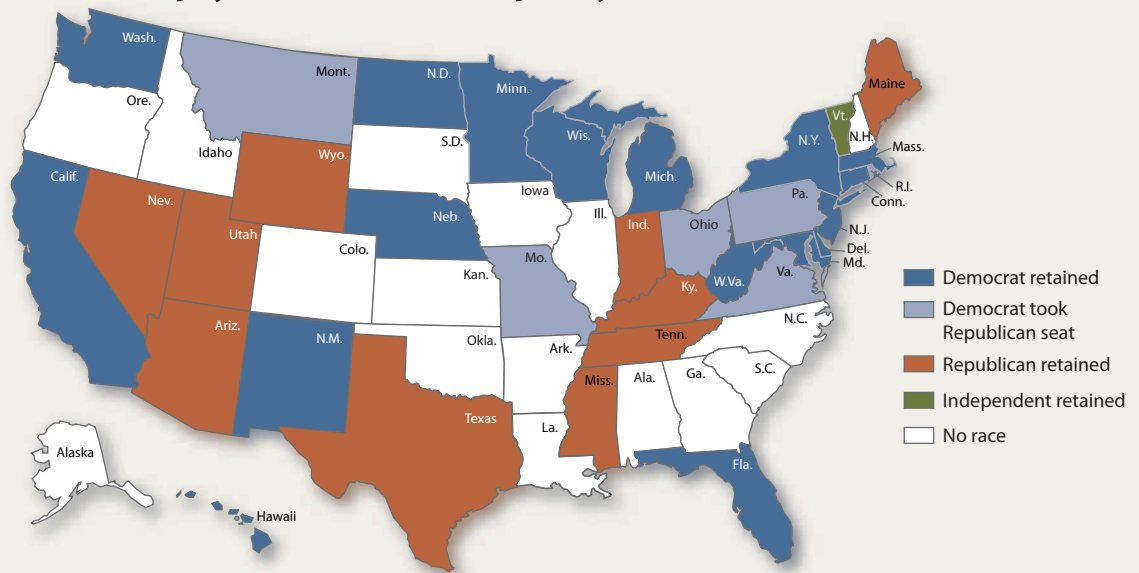
"Regardless of the outcome, both sides [in the Senate] can credibly claim a working majority on any given issue," said Joel Johnson, a partner at the lobbying firm Glover Park Group and a former Democratic leadership aide who worked under then-Minority Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota. The question for McConnell, then, is, "Will he do what's best for his caucus or will he be taking orders from the White House like they have been?"

Long before Election Day, Reid sensed a realignment of pow-

Democrats Poised to Enjoy Slim Senate Majority

By picking up six seats now held by Republicans, Democrats with the help of one independent laid claim to 51 votes in the Senate, pending possible re-count challenges in Montana and Virginia.

Democrats 50
Republicans 49
Independents 1



WINNERS listed first
INCUMBENTS in **bold**

STATE	CANDIDATE	PERCENTAGE	STATE	CANDIDATE	PERCENTAGE	STATE	CANDIDATE	PERCENTAGE
Arizona	Jon Kyl, R	53%	Minnesota	Amy Klobuchar, D	58%	Pennsylvania	Bob Casey Jr., D	59%
	Jim Pederson, D	44%		Rep. Mark Kennedy, R	38%		Rick Santorum, R	41%
California	Dianne Feinstein, D	60%	Mississippi	Trent Lott, R	64%	Rhode Island	Sheldon Whitehouse, D	53%
	Dick Mountjoy, R	35%		Erik R. Fleming, D	35%		Lincoln Chafee, R	47%
Connecticut	Joseph I. Lieberman, D	50%	Missouri	Claire McCaskill, D	49%	Tennessee	Bob Corker, R	51%
	Ned Lamont, D	40%		Jim Talent, R	48%		Rep. Harold E. Ford Jr., D	48%
	Alan Schlesinger, R	10%	Montana	Jon Tester, D	49%	Texas	Kay Bailey Hutchison, R	62%
Delaware	Thomas R. Carper, D	70%		Conrad Burns, R	48%		Barbara Ann Radnofsky, D	36%
	Jan C. Ting, R	29%	Nebraska	Ben Nelson, D	64%	Utah	Orrin G. Hatch, R	63%
Florida	Bill Nelson, D	60%		Pete Ricketts, R	36%		Pete Ashdown, D	31%
	Rep. Katherine Harris, R	38%	Nevada	John Ensign, R	55%	Vermont	Rep. Bernard Sanders, I	65%
Hawaii	Daniel K. Akaka, D	61%		Jack Carter, D	41%		Rich Tarrant, R	32%
	Cynthia Thielen, R	37%	New Jersey	Robert Menendez, D	53%	Virginia	Jim Webb, D	50%
Indiana	Richard G. Lugar, R	87%		Thomas H. Kean Jr., R	45%		George Allen, R	49%
	No democratic ballot		New Mexico	Jeff Bingaman, D	71%	Washington	Maria Cantwell, D	58%
Maine	Olympia J. Snowe, R	74%		Allen W. McCulloch, R	29%		Mike McGavick, R	39%
	Jean Hay Bright, D	21%	New York	Hillary Rodham Clinton, D	67%	West Virginia	Robert C. Byrd, D	64%
Maryland	Rep. Benjamin L. Cardin, D	55%		John Spencer, R	31%		John R. Raese, R	34%
	Michael S. Steele, R	44%	North Dakota	Kent Conrad, D	69%	Wisconsin	Herb Kohl, D	67%
Massachusetts	Edward M. Kennedy, D	69%		Dwight Grotberg, R	29%		Robert Gerald Lorge, R	30%
	Kenneth G. Chase, R	31%	Ohio	Rep. Sherrod Brown, D	56%	Wyoming	Craig Thomas, R	70%
Michigan	Debbie Stabenow, D	57%		Mike DeWine, R	44%		Dale Grountage, D	30%
	Mike Bouchard, R	41%						

er. He called McConnell in September in an attempt to reach out to his counterpart and build a foundation for bipartisan cooperation.

“Sen. Reid understands things need to change, and we need to figure out how to make the Senate work like it’s supposed to work and bring back a spirit of bipartisanship,” said Reid spokesman Jim Manley. “He’s a strong partisan, but he’s also a strong institutionalist.”

McConnell, for his part, called Reid on Wednesday morning and told the Democratic leader he wants to work “in a constructive way on issues where they have agreement.”

Democrats are confident that they can get work done with Mc-

Connell leading Republicans instead of outgoing Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., who had trouble balancing his presidential ambitions with his leadership duties. Frist drew criticism from both parties for a series of tactical fumbles and his failure to deliver some key votes.

“You have to contrast it with Frist, who had a tin ear for politics and a tin ear for the Senate,” a senior Democratic aide said. “You couldn’t negotiate with Frist because he couldn’t deliver.”

But before he cuts deals with McConnell, Reid will have to quell his energized Democratic base, which is hungry to dismantle the Republican agenda and investigate the White House.

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Senate *continued from page 9*

"There's going to be pressure on leadership to do payback, to even the score," Daschle said. "The base is going to demand very hard positions, and that'll make it challenging."

"There will be two counterpressures that play out — Reid will have to balance the ideological agenda of the Democratic base while showing he can govern," Daschle added. "What's urgently needed is consensus. You can't run the Senate alone when you're at 50-50 or 51-49."

This makes the role of the White House critical. The morning after the election, the Bush administration signaled that the president is willing to work with Democrats.

Leadership Shuffle

While Reid and McConnell will be the titular leaders of their respective parties, the political comeback story of next year will be Lott's return to leadership. For months, Lott has been eyeing the whip job, and his ability to work with Democrats and count votes for the GOP will likely be one of the bright spots for Republicans in the new Senate.

Lott spokeswoman Susan Irby on Wednesday morning would only say Lott would make a decision in the next few days on whether to run for whip.

Ousted as leader by his party after making racially insensitive comments in 2002, Lott could be a key broker in an already unpredictable Senate. He is well-liked on both sides of the aisle and, despite his conservative credentials, had a reputation as majority leader for being able to run a tight schedule that relied on compromise with Democrats. Lott's opportunity to run for whip comes as the result of Rick Santorum's loss in Pennsylvania. Santorum, who was chairman of the GOP conference, was heir apparent for the whip position until he lost to Democrat Bob Casey Jr.

Tennessee Republican Lamar Alexander also has declared he is running for Republican whip. Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas will run for policy chairman; and Jon Kyl of Arizona is expected to become chairman of the Republican Conference, replacing Santorum. John Ensign of Nevada is expected to assume the difficult job of heading the National Republican Senatorial Committee, where he will try to bolster the GOP's ranks in 2008.

The leadership on the Democratic side is firmly in place. Richard J. Durbin of Illinois is likely to remain whip, and Byron L. Dorgan of North Dakota will remain policy chairman.

The old joke that every senator wakes up in the morning and sees a future president in the mirror holds truer in the new Senate than any in recent memory. At least 11 senators are considering a run for the White House, and their ambitions, not to mention the need to stand out from the pack, will be on full display throughout the 110th Congress.

McCain, a front-runner for the GOP nomination, will have an opportunity to continue to establish himself as a maverick should he decide to work closely with Democrats on major issues, such as immigration or defense policy. Clinton, meanwhile, is likely to start

Dates to Watch

- **Nov. 13 (Monday)** Congress reconvenes for lame-duck session.
- **Nov. 16 (Thursday)** Democratic House leadership elections for 110th Congress.
- **Nov. 17 (Friday)** Expiration date for a stop-gap budget law, known as a continuing resolution, which has been funding domestic discretionary programs beyond the start of the new fiscal year on Oct. 1. Congress must either approve overdue appropriations bills or clear another continuing resolution to prevent a partial government shutdown.
- **Nov. 17 (Friday)** Scheduled date for Republican House leadership elections for 110th Congress.
- **Jan. 3** Swearing in of the 110th Congress. (Constitutional date)
- **Feb. 5, 2007 (Monday)** President Bush releases his Fiscal 2008 budget proposal.

asserting herself in major Senate negotiations now that she has won a second term and no longer carries the freshman label.

But McCain and Clinton are just the front-runners. Barack Obama, D-Ill., will command attention now that he has admitted his desire to run for president, and Republicans such as Sam Brownback of Kansas and Chuck Hagel of Nebraska will try to figure out ways to stand out. As potential chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Joseph R. Biden Jr., D-Del., will have a major forum to question the Bush administration's Iraq policy.

"On either side of the aisle, no senator who has presidential ambitions is going to yield the role of the party's chief spokesman to McCain or Clinton," said Ross Baker, a political scientist and leading congressional expert at Rutgers University.

McConnell and Reid, neither of whom have presidential ambitions, will have to spend some of their time simply managing egos within their respective caucuses.

"The presidential campaign will begin the day after the election," said Daschle, another figure who harbors presidential ambitions. "It will catch the Senate in ways that will compound the challenges of the leadership."

50-50 Gridlock?

If the Senate winds up divided 50-50, the first order of business will be figuring out how to organize the chamber. McConnell does not sound willing to follow the 2001 power-sharing arrangement struck by then-Majority Leader Lott and then-Minority Leader Daschle that handed the chairmen's gavels to Republicans, raising the possibility Republicans will press for a slight majority of committee seats and funding.

McConnell was among the Republicans who thought the GOP got rolled, and says that agreement is in no way binding on the new Senate. "That's not precedential. And it's not going to happen," McConnell's spokesman Stewart said. "That particular agreement does not bind future Congresses, and neither leader that negotiated it will be leader next year."

Reid aides said the agreement should serve as a model for a 50-50 Senate, and Democrats are willing to bring the Senate to a standstill by filibustering the organizing resolution if Republicans do not offer equal representation.

The political dynamic is dramatically different than it was when the last power-sharing arrangement was struck. Then, a new President Bush was assuming office and Republicans firmly controlled the House. Now, Democrats control the House and Bush is a lame duck. There is little incentive for Senate Democrats to compromise in a way that gives Republicans firm control.

Even if Democrats were able to reinstate the 2001 agreement, some key aspects of that pact were never worked out, including questions about representation on conference committees. Before that issue could be addressed, Vermont Sen. James M. Jeffords left the GOP, giving Democrats the majority for the remainder of the 107th Congress.

SENATE ELECTIONS

Allen's Fall From Grace Reflects Senate Republicans' Tainted National Image

BY MARIE HERRIGAN, CQ STAFF WRITER

Majority control of the Senate late Wednesday hung on the undetermined outcome of a bruising race that exemplified the Republican Party's fall from grace in the midterm elections — the Virginia contest between GOP Sen. George Allen, who once had expected to cruise to re-election to a second term, and his upstart challenger, former Navy Secretary Jim Webb.

The contest remained too close to call late Wednesday, though Webb was holding on to a slim margin of about 8,000 votes out of more than 2 million cast. Democrats said they were confident they would prevail, but Republicans said they intended to follow the state's ballot recount provisions, which could delay the race's outcome for several weeks.

Democrats were basing their hopes on the same issue that helped them pick up four other seats they needed to win control of the Senate — whether voters wanted more of the same. “The message of this election came down to one word — change,” New York Sen. Charles E. Schumer, chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, told supporters at a rally in Washington early Wednesday.

Earlier in the day, another nasty battle, this between scandal-plagued Montana Sen. Conrad Burns and former state Senate President Jon Tester, ended with Tester being declared the victor by a narrow margin. That gave Democrats 50 seats, including those of Joseph I. Lieberman of Connecticut and Bernard Sanders of Vermont; both men stated they would caucus with Democrats after winning their elections as independents.

A Webb victory would give the Democrats 51 seats and uncontested control of the Senate. An Allen victory would put the Senate in a 50-50 tie, with Vice President Dick Cheney providing the tie-breaking vote for the GOP.

Though the Democratic wave that led to the defeat of a string of House GOP incumbents across the country was not as apparent in the Senate races, Democratic upsets in Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Montana and Rhode Island put the party within reach of controlling the Senate for the first time since 2001. In that year, Vermont Republican Sen. James M. Jeffords' defection swung the balance in their favor.

National Issues Prevailed

For the ousted Republicans, the national mood — Bush's low approval ratings, growing anger over the war in Iraq and recent scandals within the party's leadership — was an overwhelming factor that made Democratic takeovers possible.

Allen, who just months ago was considered a potential presidential front-runner for 2008, found himself in a tight race after making comments some perceived as racially insensitive. Webb's fortunes began to rise at that point, buoyed by the national mood against Bush and the Iraq War, which Allen has supported.

Burns, who has represented Montana in the Senate since 1988, was the senator most endangered by the lobbying scandal because of his ties to indicted lobbyist Jack Abramoff. Democrats hammered Burns on what they said were the senator's questionable ethics, and were aided by Burns' own proclivity for colorful statements that brought a rain of bad press, including jokes about employing an illegal Guatemalan immigrant.

Among the other Democratic takeovers — Claire McCaskill's de-



Webb, shown celebrating on election night, has claimed victory in a close race.

feat of Sen. Jim Talent in Missouri; Sherrod Brown's victory over Sen. Mike DeWine in Ohio; Bob Casey's ouster of Sen. Rick Santorum in Pennsylvania; and Sheldon Whitehouse's defeat of Sen. Lincoln Chafee in Rhode Island — the national mood played into Democrats' hands.

“[Voters] all over America tonight have said ‘We want change,’” Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada said early Wednesday. “All over America they’ve come to the conclusion as we did some time ago, that a one-party town just simply does not work.”

Talent, who has represented Missouri for one term in the Senate, acknowledged as much when speaking with supporters early Wednesday after conceding the race to McCaskill, who led him 49 percent to 47 percent.

Talent said his defeat “was not for any lack of support or work or vigor anywhere around this state. . . . The headwind was just very, very strong this year.”

Speaking to supporters early Wednesday, McCaskill declared her victory a rejection of the mud-slinging tactics that had marked the tight races, and declared her election the voters' call for a different course.

“The great state of Missouri has spoken!” McCaskill said. “Tonight we have heard the great voice of Missourians, and they have said we want change.”

In Ohio, where Republicans had begun pulling their money weeks ahead of the election based on DeWine's falling polling numbers, Brown's victory represents a significant pickup for the Democrats. Brown, who represented northeastern Ohio during seven terms in the U.S. House, ran a campaign focused largely on jobs and opposing policies he said were outsourcing U.S. jobs. He won the race with 56 percent of the vote.

“Today in Ohio, in the middle of America, the middle class won,” Brown told supporters.

Casey, Pennsylvania's state treasurer, was slightly favored in the con-

Senate Elections continued on page 12

Senate Elections *continued from page 11*

test against Santorum, a two-term senator who had come under fire for his conservative social stances even before his Republican brethren were brought low by poor approval ratings for the president, a worsening situation in Iraq and a spate of scandals. Although Santorum had held the seat since the so-called Republican revolution of 1994, Casey easily outpolled him 59 percent to 41 percent.

Whitehouse's victory over Chafee, a well-known moderate whose opposition to the war in Iraq and stances on social issues made him palatable to voters in the blue state of Rhode Island, hinged largely on a bloody primary contest between Chafee and conservative Republican Steve Laffey, the former mayor of Cranston.

The primary challenge, which culminated in Chafee's victory with 54 percent of the vote Sept. 12, split the moderate and conservative wings of the Republican Party, with moderates arguing that Chafee was the only Republican liberal enough to hold on to a Senate seat in such a Democratic state.

Conservatives who supported Laffey, including the anti-tax organization Club for Growth, argued that Chafee's moderate viewpoint made him just as bad as a Democrat.

But after Chafee cleared the primary — with no small amount of help from the Bush White House and Senate Republicans — Democrats had an easier time tying him to the unpopular president. Whitehouse argued that Chafee's election would bolster the GOP ranks in the Senate and help them maintain the majority. He won the contest 53 percent to 47 percent.

GOP Bright Spots

Republicans did manage to claim a few important Senate victories in Tuesday's elections. They held on to Tennessee's open Senate seat when Republican Bob Corker, the former mayor of Chattanooga, defeated Democratic Rep. Harold E. Ford Jr. in the highly competitive race to succeed retiring Bill Frist, the GOP Senate majority leader. Ford was seeking to become the first African-American from the South to win a U.S. Senate seat since Reconstruction.

It was a high-stakes race: Ford spent \$10.6 million and Corker \$14 million during the election cycle. Corker won the contest 51 percent to 48 percent after a raucous round of mud-slinging ads from the GOP candidate and the National Republican Campaign Committee that branded Ford a "playboy." One ad financed by the NRCC, which opponents argued was racially motivated, featured a white woman winking at the camera and asking Ford to call her.

Republicans also held onto their Arizona Senate seat, where incumbent Jon Kyl defeated Democrat Jim Pederson in a race that Kyl was favored to win. In the days just before the election, the DSCC dropped \$1 million for advertisements in the Phoenix and Tucson media markets for the race, which Schumer had called "the sleeper" of the 2006 election cycle.

Pederson's largely self-funded campaign, however, was hampered by late-breaking allegations that he laundered donations designated for state races through other state parties to circumvent campaign finance regulations. Kyl won the race with 53 percent of the vote, compared with 44 percent for Pederson.

Democrats Hold On

One factor that aided Democrats was their ability to retain control of the seats they already held, including four states that had been considered particularly vulnerable: New Jersey, Maryland,

Nebraska and Washington.

New Jersey Sen. Robert Menendez declared victory Tuesday night with 53 percent of the vote against a vigorous challenge by Thomas H. Kean Jr., son of the popular two-term governor.

Menendez's win gives him his first full term after being appointed to the seat in January by Democrat Jon Corzine, the previous occupant, who took over the governor's mansion, despite Republicans' allegations that Menendez was a corrupt urban "boss."

In the contest for the open Senate seat in Maryland, where Democrat Paul S. Sarbanes is retiring after five terms, 10-term Democratic Rep. Benjamin L. Cardin defeated Republican Lt. Gov. Michael Steele 55 percent to 44 percent. Steele, the first African-American elected to statewide office in Maryland, had won the support of several top black Democratic officials who crossed party lines to publicly back him. Their support, however, was not enough to catapult Steele to a win in a heavily Democratic state.

Nebraska Democrat Ben Nelson defeated self-funded Republican Pete Ricketts, the former Ameritrade CEO, to win a second term with 64 percent of the vote. Washington's Maria Cantwell, who won her 2000 race with 49 percent of the vote, managed to hold on to her seat against businessman Mike McGavick with 58 percent of the vote.

Democrats also held their seat in Minnesota, where Amy Klobuchar beat GOP Rep. Mark Kennedy for the seat that Democrat Mark Dayton was giving up after one term in office. In Michigan, first-term Sen. Debbie Stabenow fought off Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard. Democrat Bill Nelson easily won a second term representing Florida despite a well-publicized challenge from GOP Rep. Katherine Harris.

And in the highly watched but safe Democratic race in Connecticut, Lieberman won his independent bid for a fourth term, which he launched after losing the Democratic primary on Aug. 8 to liberal anti-war candidate Ned Lamont. Lieberman defeated Lamont and Republican Alan Schlesinger in a race that state officials said received record turnout. Lieberman has vowed to caucus with Democrats despite running outside the party's ticket.

Vermont's Senate race likewise was considered a retention for Democrats as Sanders, who has long caucused with House Democrats, won the open seat from retiring independent James M. Jeffords, who also caucused with Democrats after his party switch.

Among the safe races, candidates scored the following wins: Democratic Californian Dianne Feinstein was elected to her third full term; Republican Richard G. Lugar won a sixth term for Indiana; Republican Olympia J. Snowe won a third term representing Maine; Democrat Edward M. Kennedy won an eighth term for Massachusetts; Democrat Jeff Bingaman in New Mexico won a fifth term; Republican Kay Bailey Hutchison won her third term representing Texas; Republican Orrin G. Hatch will represent Utah for a sixth term; Democrat Robert C. Byrd was elected to a ninth term for West Virginia; and Wyoming Republican Craig Thomas won a third term.

"We had a huge night last night, and really the American people had a huge night last night," Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean said Wednesday.

And even with majority control of the Senate still not sealed, Schumer said Tuesday night's results were a vindication of his faith in the party. "These last few weeks I said, we're on the edge of taking back the Senate, and we are," Schumer told supporters in the early hours Wednesday at election headquarters in Washington. ♦



CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO THE NEW CONGRESS

The American people have spoken, and a new Congress has been elected.

We congratulate all the Members of the 110th Congress from both parties, and we salute the returning Members and the newly elected Members for their victories.

Your commitment and hard work have resulted in your successful campaigns.

We at Merrill Lynch join all Americans in extending our best wishes to all of you for a successful and prosperous new term.

Now that the election is over, we hope that all Members of Congress will work to find common ground and focus on enhancing the long-term growth prospects of our economy.

We urge Congress to focus on initiatives to increase saving and investment, improve retirement security, and preserve the global competitiveness of America's capital markets.

These measures will help ensure continued economic growth and prosperity, and help all Americans achieve the American dream of a better future.

LAME-DUCK PREVIEW

Lame-Duck Session Could Be Short; Appropriations, Tax Cuts Top List

BY STEVEN T. DENNIS, CQ STAFF WRITER

The Democratic takeover of the House and possibly the Senate sets the stage for a post-election session of the 109th Congress dominated by action on appropriations, tax breaks and confirmation hearings for a new Defense secretary.

At the same time, members elected to the 110th Congress will be busy with organizational matters, including contested leadership elections in the House.

G. William Hoagland, budget adviser to Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., said Wednesday that chances have increased that lawmakers will clear another short-term "continuing resolution" during the lame-duck session and leave it to the new Congress to finish the remaining fiscal 2007 appropriations bills. Such a move is particularly likely if the Democrats end up with a majority in the Senate, he said.

That's just what happened in 2002, when the Senate, under then-Democratic Majority Leader Tom Daschle, flipped to GOP control. Like this year, lawmakers had completed work on only two of 12 appropriations bills before the election.

But kicking the spending bills over into the new year "will require the cooperation of the Democrats," Hoagland said. "If the Democratic leadership says we want to get this stuff done now and we don't want it on our desk, that would be positive, in that maybe we could wrap it up into an omnibus [appropriations] bill."

Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said Congress must pass "some way for the government to fund itself" but did not comment on his preference for an omnibus or a short-term package.

Most government programs are being funded by a stopgap spending measure that lasts until Nov. 17. So lawmakers must either pass an extension of the measure until December if they choose to go the omnibus route or extend it until early next year.

A former senior appropriations aide predicted that Democrats will want to pass an omnibus now rather than later. "I continue to believe that Democrats don't want to have to deal with the appropriations process all over again in a new Congress," the aide said.

But that could mean a session that does not end until shortly before Christmas. Hoagland said GOP leaders and the White House would probably oppose any demands from Democrats that they bust budget caps to add billions in spending on domestic programs.

For his part, President Bush said Wednesday at a news conference that he hoped to pass important legislation by the end of the year, including appropriations bills.

Going above the \$873 billion discretionary budget cap would require 60 votes in the Senate. But Hoagland noted that leaving the fiscal 2007 appropriations bills to the Democrats to complete next year could be a matter of "pay now or pay later," because Democratic appropriators are expected to receive a request for a massive war supplemental next spring.

The former appropriations aide said Democrats could add several billions of dollars in domestic spending to that supplemental, for labor, health and education programs. Bush then would have

"If the Democratic leadership says, 'We want to get this stuff done now, and we don't want it on our desk,' that would be positive in that maybe we could wrap it up into an omnibus bill."

— G. William Hoagland

Budget adviser for the Senate majority leader

to decide whether to veto the measure or accept the added funds.

Taxes, Trade and the Pentagon

A top GOP priority in the lame-duck session will probably be to clear a package of extensions of expiring tax breaks. A priority of the business community, the package will probably be advanced independently of other legislation by the GOP leadership. The extensions include some with bipartisan support, such as the expired research-and-development tax credit, the college tuition deduction and an exemption for state and local sales tax in states without an income tax. The White House has urged passage

of the tax extenders in the lame-duck session.

The odds of a short, year-end session may have been reduced, though, with the possibility of lengthy confirmation hearings for Robert M. Gates, Bush's nominee to replace Donald H. Rumsfeld at the Pentagon. Those hearings could conceivably extend the session well into December. "We won't rule anything out as we consult with the administration and the Senate Democratic leadership about what makes the best sense at this critical time in building a bipartisan consensus behind our war strategy," said Eric Ueland, chief of staff for Frist.

Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., set to take over as chairman of the Armed Services panel, in a statement Wednesday supported the idea of considering the nomination in the lame-duck session. So has GOP Chairman John W. Warner of Virginia.

On trade issues, Republicans next week are likely to win easy passage of a permanent extension of normal trade relations with Vietnam (HR 5602, S 3495). Bush is headed to Hanoi for a summit on Nov. 18-19, and it would be considered embarrassing if the measure was not cleared before his visit. Also, Vietnam was formally invited to join the World Trade Organization (WTO) this week, and failing to pass this legislation would leave the U.S. unable to take advantage of Vietnam's WTO membership.

Facing an increasingly protectionist 110th Congress, GOP leaders might try in the lame-duck session to push through a free trade agreement with Peru that has been languishing. Incoming Ways and Means Chairman Charles B. Rangel, D-N.Y., has said he would not advance the pact in its current form because of concerns about labor standards in the agreement.

Reid said he hopes to help Frist pass several other measures by the end of the year, including a reauthorization (S 3678) of an expiring law to deal with pandemic disease or bioterrorism (PL 107-188); legislation to authorize drilling south of the Florida Panhandle in the eastern Gulf of Mexico (S 3711); and legislation that would allow the United States to export nuclear technology to India for the first time in three decades (S 3709, HR 5682).

Leadership elections are expected next week in the Senate. House Democrats have set their elections for Nov. 16, with Republicans voting a day later. (Story, p. 15) ♦

Liriel Higa, John M. Donnelly, Daphne Retter and Rachel Van Dongen contributed to this story.

Pelosi's Challenge: Enforce Party Discipline While Seeking Accord With GOP

By ALAN K. OTA, CQ STAFF WRITER

President Bush once relied on a disciplined GOP House majority to push tax cuts and other conservative priorities over to the Senate, where he pressured moderate Republicans to cut deals. Now, a wave of voter discontent will give the first Democratic House majority in a dozen years a chance to show the White House its own version of a House-first political strategy.

The Democrats' triumph positioned Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., to become the nation's 52nd Speaker of the House, the highest-ranking woman in American history, one step below Vice President Dick Cheney in the line of succession to President Bush.

Pelosi began her first day after the election by urging Bush in a news conference to begin a dialogue on a new course in Iraq — and to fire Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld to “signal an openness to new, fresh ideas.” Just an hour after her comments, Bush announced that Rumsfeld had resigned, to be replaced by Robert Gates, the former Central Intelligence Agency director.

Bush insisted his decision was not prompted by Pelosi's remarks, but his quick action nonetheless underscored the potential for rapid, dramatic changes as both parties adjust to the new power structure on Capitol Hill.

Early next year, Pelosi plans to keep the heat on by handing Republicans a choice — compromise, filibuster or veto — for proposals to raise the minimum wage, repeal tax breaks for oil companies and challenge Bush's first-ever veto of a measure (HR 810) to expand embryonic stem cell research.

“She's very focused and energized. She feels urgency. We all feel the urgency. . . . The sooner we get on the right track the better. And that's why we support this kind of agenda,” said James E. Clyburn of South Carolina, chairman of the Democratic Caucus. Pelosi offered an olive branch to Bush, insisting that “impeachment is off the table” and vowing to push for changes in protocol, including the possible use of more open rules to give the minority party its say through floor amendments. “I will be the Speaker of the House, not of the Democrats,” she said.

Bush offered an olive branch of his own by inviting her to lunch at the White House, although he declined to start “negotiating with myself” on her priorities. “I believe on a lot of issues we can find common ground. And there's a significant difference between common ground and abandoning principle,” he said at a Nov. 8 news conference. “She's not going to abandon her principles, and I'm not going to abandon mine.”

The early pace of the new session could depend in part on how quickly both caucuses can organize new leadership teams and build consensus for priorities. Democrats are set to elect their leaders on Nov. 16, while Republicans are scheduled to hold their elections the following day.



Likely to be the first female Speaker of the House, Pelosi is positioned to make history — and headaches for Bush.

Although Pelosi has broad support within her caucus, heated races shaped up this week for other slots on her leadership team, including a head-to-head race for majority leader between two senior appropriators: party Whip Steny H. Hoyer, a liberal loyalist from Maryland; and Pennsylvanian John P. Murtha, who has a moderate voting record. A crucial factor could be whether Pelosi intercedes on behalf of Murtha, her longtime ally.

For Republicans, the loss of the majority will mean a demotion for Speaker J. Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., who has served four terms and is the longest-serving GOP Speaker in history. Hastert said he would not run for a minority leadership post. “The Republican leader in the 110th Congress will have the responsibility to emphasize conservative values and reform principles. I will not seek this role,” Hastert said in a statement.

Any reshuffling could hinge in part on how Republicans want to respond to possible deals with Pelosi.

Party leaders have long maintained that they faced a virtual “perfect storm” in 2006 with ethics woes culminating in the House page scandal, low ratings for Bush and a traditional “six-year itch” loss of seats by the party of a second-term president. But the scale of the defeat has spurred calls from conservative constituents for new faces and a stronger conservative message for 2008.

John A. Boehner of Ohio faces challengers in the race for minority leader: Mike Pence of Indiana, who chairs the Republican Study Committee; and Joe L. Barton of Texas, who is now the senior Republican on Energy and Commerce.

Boehner earned a reputation as a dealmaker on the 2001 No Child Left Behind law (PL 107-110), as did Barton on the 2005 energy overhaul (PL 109-58). Pence draws a tough line on spending but wants a deal on immigration.

With Hastert, Roy Blunt, R-Mo., has perhaps been Bush's closest ally in the House as majority whip. Now, he plans to run for mi-

House continued on page 17

Key House Races

Before the Nov. 7 election, Congressional Quarterly ranked about 60 House races as highly competitive, either because they were true tossups in which neither party had established a definite lead, or because an upset was a viable possibility, even if one party had a slight edge. The following

indicates the winners in those races as well as other contests in which the incumbent party unexpectedly lost a seat. The state maps highlight the winning party in some of the most-watched races.

Winners listed first and in **bold**; asterisks indicate incumbents

Arizona 1

***Rick Renzi, R**
Ellen Simon, D

Arizona 5

Harry E. Mitchell, D
*J.D. Hayworth, R

California 4

***John T. Doolittle, R**
Charlie Brown, D

California 11

Jerry McNerney, D
*Richard W. Pombo, R

California 50

***Brian P. Bilbray, R**
Francine Busby, D

Colorado 4

***Marilyn Musgrave, R**
Angie Paccione, D

Colorado 7 (open R seat)

Ed Perlmutter, D
Rick O'Donnell, R

Connecticut 2 (not called yet)

***Rob Simmons, R**
Joe Courtney, D

Connecticut 4

***Christopher Shays, R**
Diane Farrell, D

Connecticut 5

Christopher S. Murphy, D
*Nancy L. Johnson, R

Florida 13 (open R seat; not called yet)

Vern Buchanan, R
Christine Jennings, D

Florida 16 (open R seat)

Tim Mahoney, D
Joe Negron, R

Florida 22

Ron Klein, D
*E. Clay Shaw Jr., R

Georgia 8

Jim Marshall, D *
Mac Collins, R

Georgia 12 (not called yet)

***John Barrow, D**
Max Burns, R

Idaho 1 (open R seat)

Bill Sali, R
Larry E. Grant, D

Illinois 6 (open R seat)

Peter Roskam, R
Tammy Duckworth, D

Illinois 8

***Melissa Bean, D**
David McSweeney, R

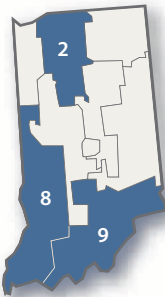
Indiana 2

Joe Donnelly, D
*Chris Chocola, R

Indiana 8

Brad Ellsworth, D
*John Hostettler, R

Indiana



Indiana 9

Baron P. Hill, D
*Mike Sodrel, R

Iowa 1 (open R seat)

Bruce Braley, D
Mike Whalen, R

Iowa 2

Dave Loebsack, D
*Jim Leach, R

Iowa 3

***Leonard L. Boswell, D**
Jeff Lamberti, R

Kansas 2

Nancy Boyda, D
*Jim Ryun, R

Kentucky 2

***Ron Lewis, R**
Mike Weaver, D

Kentucky 3

John Yarmuth, D
*Anne M. Northup, R

Kentucky 4

***Geoff Davis, R**
Ken Lucas, D

Minnesota 1

Tim Walz, D
*Gil Gutknecht, R

Minnesota 6 (open R seat)

Michele Bachmann, R
Patty Wetterling, D

Nebraska 1

***Jeff Fortenberry, R**
Maxine Moul, D

Nebraska 3 (open R seat)

Adrian Smith, R
Scott Kleeb, D

Nevada 2 (open R seat)

Dean Heller, R
Jill Derby, D

Nevada 3

***Jon Porter, R**
Tessa Hafen, D

New Hampshire 1

Carol Shea-Porter, D
*Jeb Bradley, R

New Hampshire 2

Paul W. Hodes, D
*Charles Bass, R

New Jersey 7

***Mike Ferguson, R**
Linda Stender, D

New Mexico 1 (not called yet)

***Heather A. Wilson, R**
Patricia Madrid, D

New York 19

John Hall, D
*Sue W. Kelly, R

New York 20

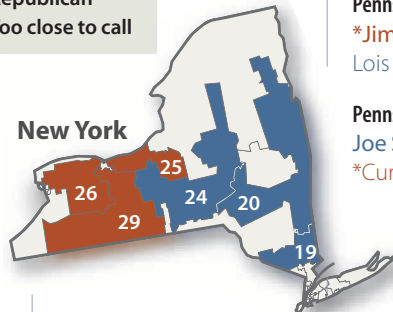
Kirsten Gillibrand, D
*John E. Sweeney, R

New York 24 (open R seat)

Michael Arcuri, D
Ray Meier, R

New York 25

***James T. Walsh, R**
Dan Maffei, D



New York 26

***Thomas M. Reynolds, R**
Jack Davis, D

New York 29

***John R. "Randy" Kuhl Jr., R**
Eric Massa, D

North Carolina 11

Heath Shuler, D
*Charles H. Taylor, R

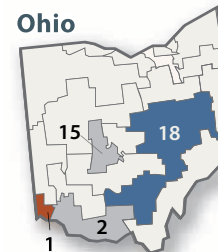
Ohio 1

***Steve Chabot, R**
John Cranley, D

Ohio 2 (not called yet)

***Jean Schmidt, R**
Victoria Wulsin, D

Ohio



Ohio 15 (not called yet)

***Deborah Pryce, R**
Mary Jo Kilroy, D

Ohio 18 (open R seat)

Zack Space, D
Joy Padgett, R

Pennsylvania 4

Jason Altmire, D
*Melissa A. Hart, R

Pennsylvania 6

***Jim Gerlach, R**
Lois Murphy, D

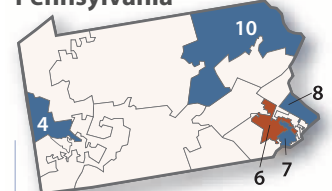
Pennsylvania 7

Joe Sestak, D
*Curt Weldon, R

Pennsylvania 8

Patrick J. Murphy, D
*Michael G. Fitzpatrick, R

Pennsylvania



Pennsylvania 10

Chris Carney, D
*Don Sherwood, R

Texas 22 (open R seat)

Nick Lampson, D
Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, R

Vermont AL (open D seat ***)

Peter Welch, D
Martha Rainville, R

Virginia 2

***Thelma Drake, R**
Phil Kellam, D

Washington 8 (not called yet)

***Dave Reichert, R**
Darcy Burner, D

Wisconsin 8 (open R seat)

Steven L. Kagen, D
John Gard, R

Wyoming AL (not called yet)

***Barbara Cubin, R**
Gary Trauner, D

** Marshall is the incumbent in Georgia's current 3rd District

*** Independent Vermont Rep. Bernard Sanders, who won a Senate seat, caucuses with House Democrats

House *continued from page 15*

nority whip and faces a challenge from John Shadegg, R-Ariz., in a rematch of two candidates defeated by Boehner in the race for majority leader last February.

Deborah Pryce, R-Ohio, will step aside as conference chairman, opening up a race between Adam H. Putnam of Florida, chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, and other candidates including Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn., and Jack Kingston, R-Ga., who is caucus vice chairman.

In another race, Pete Sessions of Texas, Tom Cole of Oklahoma and Phil English of Pennsylvania are vying to succeed New York's Thomas M. Reynolds as chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee.

The 'First 100 Hours'

During their 12-year majority, and despite close margins, Republicans moved their agenda through the trademark tough party discipline of former Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas (1985-2006).

Now Pelosi and her team must demonstrate that they can forge similar discipline — not just to oppose GOP initiatives but to move their own agenda. Pelosi hopes to emulate the GOP's fast start in the first session of the current Congress, when bipartisan coalitions enacted several measures, including a rewrite of the bankruptcy code (PL 109-8) and an energy policy overhaul (PL 109-58).

Her blueprint calls for moving on the first day of the 110th Congress on the first installment of the half-dozen priorities she has slated for action in the "first 100 legislative hours." She plans to use the inaugural House rules package for her "drain the swamp" restraints on K Street, including a ban on gifts and sponsored trips from lobbyists, and for a revival of pay-as-you-go rules that require offsets for new tax cuts and spending.

Other items on the "100 hours" list would move as bills. She hopes to forge a bipartisan compromise on an increase in the minimum wage, coupled with a small-business tax break. But partisan showdowns loom on other items on her short list, including a mandate for negotiated lower prices for participants in the Medicare prescription drug benefit program; a proposal to provide port security funding and enact other recommendations of the Sept. 11 commission; a halving of interest rates on college student loans; a repeal of "tax giveaways for Big Oil"; and a repeal of Bush's prohibition on broader embryonic stem cell research.

Even supporters of her agenda acknowledge that Pelosi will be hard-pressed to meet her fast timetable.

Allies say Pelosi will be pragmatic and will seek compromises that pass muster with the White House and can win the approval of a filibuster-proof 60 votes in a closely divided Senate.

But the most striking thing about the short list — besides the timing — may be what it leaves out, such as details on how Pelosi will bridge the wide gap in her party on dealing with the Iraq War and her strategy for repealing GOP tax breaks for wealthy families. The omission of such themes underscored the difficulty she faced in rallying Democrats to back a governing agenda.

Pelosi's caucus will be bigger and more deeply divided than in recent years. But political observers such as Ronald M. Peters Jr., a political scientist at the University of Oklahoma, say Pelosi could have advantages in unifying Democrats who sought to turn the election into a referendum on Bush and a mandate for a centrist

agenda. "Democrats know all too well how fragile their majority is. She's going to have tremendous leverage to persuade them to do what she wants," he said.

That clout, he added, might give Pelosi a shot at rivaling the most productive start for a Democratic Speaker since Jim Wright, D-Texas, (1955-1989), in the 100th Congress. Like Wright, Pelosi will start with her own agenda and will not be as heavily reliant on committee chairmen as speakers Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., D-Mass. (1953-1987), and Thomas S. Foley, D-Wash. (1965-1995).

All told, Democrats will have a majority of at least 229 seats after closing the door on GOP incumbents in the Northeast, Midwest, Southwest and in Florida. The size of the Democrats' margin for control will not be known until election results are in for the undecided races, which on Nov. 8 numbered fewer than a dozen.

Putnam, chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, predicted the GOP would develop its own alternatives to Pelosi's ideas and work to win support from Democratic moderates. "It's a historic moment, the elevation of the first female Speaker. . . . She deserves her time in the sun," Putnam said. "But then all eyes turn to the agenda. The question is, can she hold together the moderate members of her caucus?"

The defeat of GOP moderates in swing districts, such as the two-man New Hampshire delegation of Jeb Bradley and Charles Bass, will turn the GOP caucus a deeper shade of red. The conservatives in the Republican Study Committee will number around 107 next year — among the 195 Republicans in the chamber as of Nov. 8.

"We will be the majority of the minority," said a GOP aide.

Democrats are poised to elevate a half-dozen African-American and Hispanic lawmakers into senior positions as elected party leaders or chairmen — an unprecedented number of minorities. But the caucus will continue to hand perquisites and chairmanships to the most senior members of the caucus, including the dean of the House, John D. Dingell, D-Mich., who is in line to regain his Energy and Commerce gavel.

New Rules

Both parties have a long history of accusing each other of poor management of the House. Pelosi contends GOP leaders limited dissent with restrictive rules and gave short shrift to oversight by reducing the typical workweek to three days, from Tuesday evening to Thursday afternoon.

Republicans defended the shorter week as a device for persuading members to keep their families in their districts and to avoid joining an entrenched Washington culture. And they argued that Democrats had a chance to voice objections on motions to recommit bills that were usually allowed by the GOP.

Allies say Pelosi will work with her new floor leader on a calendar that could provide for longer workweeks.

Former Rep. Marty Russo, D-Ill. (1975-1993), chief executive officer of Cassidy & Associates and a Pelosi adviser, said workweeks during busy periods could run from Monday evening to Friday afternoon. "She wants more oversight. And there will be more bills to debate," he said. But longtime political observers predict Pelosi will have trouble moving her priorities without putting some restrictions on the rules for floor debate on specific legislation.

"Remember that Republicans learned from Democrats how to use closed rules," said Roger Davidson, a visiting political scientist at the University of California at Santa Barbara.



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HOUSE ELECTIONS

Democrats Retake House on Strength of Bush's Unpopularity and GOP Scandals

BY GREGORY L. GIROUX, CQ STAFF WRITER

Public dissatisfaction with the Bush administration and scandal in the Republican-controlled Congress propelled Democrats to their biggest gains since the Watergate era, enabling the party easily to clinch a House majority in the Nov. 7 elections and ending a 12-year GOP reign.

Democrats stand to gain a net of at least 27 House seats, comfortably more than the net gain of 15 seats needed to clinch a majority — and exceeding the number of seats the party netted during the first midterm election of President Ronald Reagan's administration in 1982. Democrats were poised to gain even more seats, with 10 House contests — all but one defended by Republicans — still too close to call on mid-afternoon Wednesday.

The election results yielded significant evidence that voters were repudiating President Bush, and by extension his House Republican allies, for their handling of the unpopular Iraq war. A series of scandals, including ties of prominent Republican House leaders to indicted lobbyist Jack Abramoff and the leadership's handling of the Mark Foley congressional page case, also seem to have contributed to Republican losses.

"The American people voted for a new direction," said Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi of California, who stands to become the first-ever woman to serve as House Speaker when the 110th Congress convenes in January.

Democrats defeated at least 19 House Republicans and also carried at least eight open seats that GOP incumbents had vacated, leaving to retire or seek other office. It is possible that Democrats did not lose any of their seats to the Republicans, though one of their seats in Georgia remained undecided Wednesday.

Democrats began Tuesday with a bang, unseating Republican Rep. Anne M. Northup in Kentucky's 3rd District and beating three GOP incumbents in Indiana — Chris Chocola in the 2nd, John Hostettler in the 8th and Mike Sodrel in the 9th. Those victories foreshadowed a big night for House Democrats.

The impact of the war in Iraq was nowhere more evident than in New Hampshire's 1st District, where two-term incumbent Jeb Bradley was upset by Democrat Carol Shea-Porter, a liberal activist whose underfunded campaign concentrated heavily on her opposition to the war.

Shea-Porter's win also typified the Democrats' resounding success in the northeastern United States, a historically Republican region that has shifted decidedly to the Democrats in recent years. In New Hampshire's 2nd District, moderate six-term Rep. Charles Bass was defeated by Democratic lawyer Paul W. Hodes, whom Bass trounced by 20 percentage points two years ago.

New York Rep. Thomas M. Reynolds, the chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, chalked up his party's losses to the historical tendency of the incumbent president's political party to lose seats in the second midterm election of a presidential administration — the so-called "six-year itch."

"Second-term midterm elections are the toughest for the president's party, and the one last night was absolutely no different," said Reynolds, who himself was nearly defeated for re-election in New York's 26th District.

Republicans lost New York's 24th District, where Democratic



Democrat Ron Klein, right, celebrated his win over Republican Rep. E. Clay Shaw Jr.

county district attorney Michael Arcuri beat state Sen. Ray Meier to succeed retiring GOP Rep. Sherwood Boehlert. Republican Reps. Sue W. Kelly in the 19th District and John E. Sweeney in the 20th District were defeated, and three other House Republicans from the Empire State (including Reynolds) barely held on.

Democrats also stood to unseat at least three House Republicans from Pennsylvania. One of them, Rep. Curt Weldon, was trounced by Democrat Joe Sestak, a retired Navy admiral, in his campaign for an 11th term in suburban Philadelphia.

Many Republican moderates were unseated in districts that are politically competitive or even lean Democratic — evidence that Democrats scored points in linking GOP incumbents, no matter how moderate their voting records, to the Bush administration.

Rep. Jim Leach, one of the GOP's leading moderates, was shockingly defeated by Democratic college professor David Loebsack in Iowa's 2nd District, a Democratic-leaning district that nonetheless had re-elected Leach by handsome margins in most of his previous 15 elections.

The returns also served as a reminder that Republican-leaning districts, which had backed Bush's re-election just two years ago, were not necessarily bulwarks for House GOP incumbents. Bush took 62 percent in Indiana's 8th, where Hostettler was trounced by Democratic county sheriff Brad Ellsworth; the challenger emphasized moderate-to-conservative views and benefited from the incumbent's occasional controversial votes and statements.

Longtime incumbency did not save several veteran GOP members. In Florida's 22nd District, Rep. E. Clay Shaw Jr. — a 26-year House veteran and a senior member of the influential Ways and Means Committee — was defeated by Democratic state Sen. Ron Klein in one of the most expensive races in the nation.

Nancy L. Johnson, another senior member of the Ways and Means panel, was trounced by Democratic state Sen. Chris Murphy in Connecticut's 5th District.

Republicans had hoped that structural advantages, including districts drawn to protect incumbents, flush campaign coffers and sophisticated get-out-the-vote efforts, would blunt Democratic gains. But Reynolds also said that some House Republican incumbents

House Elections continued on page 20

House Elections *continued from page 19*

— whom he did not specify — failed to prepare themselves to run in a political environment where low public approval ratings of the Congress and general disenchantment with the Bush administration hampered many Republicans. Reynolds said some GOP members did not draw sharp issue contrasts with their Democratic rivals, who tended to “nationalize” the election by linking Republicans to Bush.

“Unprepared members were swallowed up by the sour national environment,” Reynolds said.

Scandal hurt GOP candidates in districts that normally vote heavily Republican. In Pennsylvania’s 10th District, which takes in rock-ribbed Republican precincts in the northeastern part of the state, Democratic political scientist Chris Carney defeated four-term Republican Don Sherwood — who last year acknowledged having an affair with a young woman who accused the married congressman of physical abuse. The congressman denied the abuse allegations, but he suffered significant political damage.

Democrat Zack Space, an elected municipal attorney, was elected in a landslide in Ohio’s 18th, a culturally conservative district in eastern Ohio that was recently vacated by Republican Bob Ney. Ney, a six-term congressman who had dominated recent elections, pleaded guilty to federal corruption charges that stemmed from an investigation into his ties to former lobbyist Jack Abramoff.

In Florida’s 16th District, Democratic businessman Tim Mahoney edged Republican state Rep. Joe Negron to win the seat that Republican Mark Foley resigned in September after disclosures that he sent inappropriate electronic messages to teenage boys who had served as House pages. Foley’s name appeared on the ballot, though votes cast for him automatically were awarded to Negron.

And, in perhaps the most ironic turn of events, Democratic former Rep. Nick Lampson won the seat in Texas’ 22nd District that had long been held by Republican Tom DeLay — the former majority leader and veteran political infighter whose aggressive efforts to ensure a “permanent” Republican majority caused ethics problems that ultimately led to his resignation from the House in June.

“We also lost several seats by self-inflicted wounds,” Reynolds said. “We had a number of reliable Republican seats where the member had a problem. And either they could not straighten it out with their constituents, or they left it to the candidate succeeding them to deal with it.”

Defensive Crouch

Republicans entered Tuesday in a deep defensive crouch, forced to defend the overwhelming majority of competitive House districts. Entering Election Day, more than 50 GOP-held districts featured highly competitive races — a playing field much larger than in previous election cycles.

“We expanded the field so we had a universe that could take advantage,” said Rep. Rahm Emanuel, D-Ill., the chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. “What you couldn’t see a year out, but which became apparent three months out, was we were going to have an expanded field with expanded opportunities for Democrats.”

Emanuel pointed to Arizona’s 5th District, where Democratic state Sen. Harry Mitchell unseated six-term Republican Rep. J.D. Hayworth, who was easily re-elected two years ago over a much weaker Democratic candidate.



GETTY / CHIP SOMODEVILLA

Emanuel and Pelosi celebrate the Democrats’ gains at an election-night party.

By contrast, the Republicans failed to recruit strong challengers to many House Democrats. Just five districts now held by Democrats were considered to be highly competitive.

Democrats retained the at-large Vermont seat that liberal independent Rep. Bernard Sanders gave up to run for the Senate. Freshman Rep. Melissa Bean of Illinois’ 8th District and five-term Rep. Leonard L. Boswell of Iowa’s 3rd District defeated strong GOP challengers.

It is still unclear whether Georgia Democrat John Barrow in the 12th District will be re-elected, though he held a narrow lead over a seasoned Republican challenger, former Rep. Max Burns. The other close race in Georgia finally fell in favor of incumbent Democrat Jim Marshall, who beat former Rep. Mac Collins.

Several House Democrats whom party strategists expected would face highly competitive contests wound up winning handily. They included Rep. Chet Edwards, who trounced Republican Van Taylor, a businessman and Iraq War veteran, in the strongly conservative-leaning 17th District of Texas.

“Every Democrat who sought re-election is returning to the United States Congress,” Emanuel said.

Close Races

A number of races remained too close to call Wednesday.

They included Connecticut’s 2nd District, where Republican incumbent Rob Simmons was trailing Democratic former state Rep. Joe Courtney by about 200 votes in their rematch of a 2002 race. In North Carolina’s 8th District, four-term Republican incumbent Robin Hayes was barely ahead of Democrat Larry Kissell.

The results of two other House races will be determined in runoff elections next month. In Texas’ 23rd District, Republican Rep. Henry Bonilla fell just short of the majority vote necessary to win election outright and will have to face Democratic former Rep. Ciro D. Rodriguez.

Bonilla took 47 percent of the vote on the all-candidate, all-party ballot, while Rodriguez had 20 percent of the overall vote to clinch the second runoff berth.

The unusual primary election was needed because Texas’ 23rd was redrawn by a federal court this summer following a Supreme Court ruling that the district — as configured by Texas GOP legislators for the 2004 election — unconstitutionally weakened the voting rights of Hispanics. ♦



David Davis, Tennessee Republican

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Carol Shea-Porter, New Hampshire Democrat

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jerry McNerney, California Democrat

NEWS.COM / SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS

CQ 110th Congress New Members

In the immediate aftermath of the Democratic gains in the momentous 2006 election, lobby shops, think tanks, public interest groups, newsrooms and government employees focused on the number of Democrats and Republicans in the 110th Congress and on the broad question of what the power shift means for the way Washington does business.

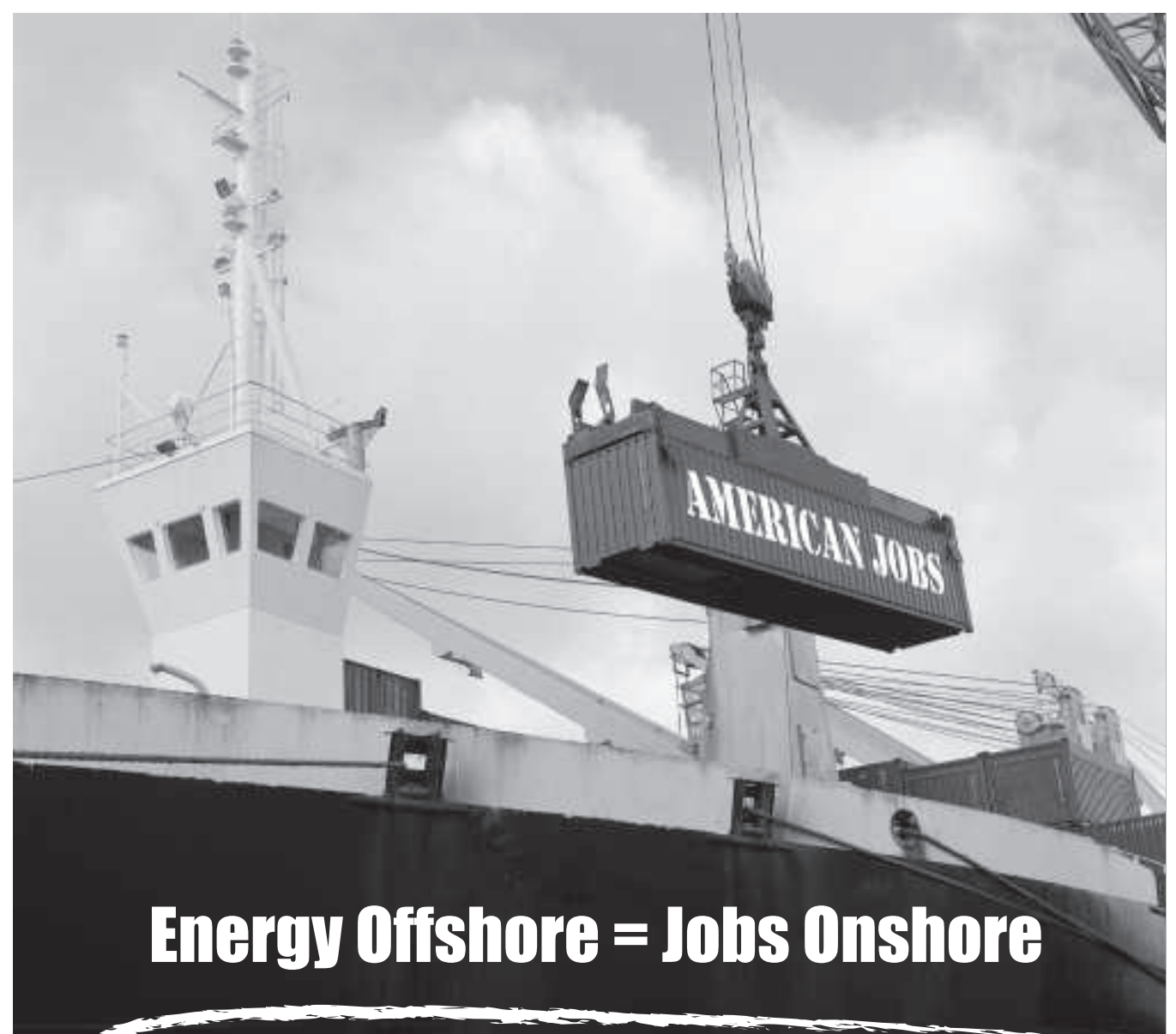
But they soon will learn what voters across the nation have known for months: The individuals newly on their way to Washington are a quirky bunch with a broad range of experiences, which makes predicting the policy direction of the new Congress a tricky prospect at best.

As expected, several military veterans who are at odds with their former commander in chief over the Iraq War are on their way to Washington. And, as usual, a large contingent of lawyers and politi-

cians is making a move from local and state elected offices. However, the list of new members also includes a former social worker, a deli owner and the owner of an oxygen therapy clinic.

Polls indicate that much of the turnover was a result of voter dissatisfaction with the Iraq War and Capitol Hill ethics scandals, but the surge of power for Democrats will have implications that reach far beyond those issues. For example, a former member of a popular rock band on his way to Congress is now focused on ending subsidies for fossil fuels, and an executive at a wind-power company defeated a chief nemesis of environmentalists — House Resources Chairman Richard W. Pombo.

In the following pages, Congressional Quarterly profiles all the newly elected members of Congress. Some candidates profiled had not been declared winners at press time but were leading.



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MARYLAND

Benjamin L. Cardin, D

Election: Defeated Rep. Michael Steele, R, to succeed Paul S. Sarbanes, D, who retired
Home: Baltimore

Born: Oct. 5, 1943, Baltimore, Md.

Religion: Jewish

Family: Wife, Myrna Edelman Cardin; two children (one deceased)

Education: U. of Pittsburgh, B.A. 1964; U. of Maryland, Baltimore, LL.B. 1967

Career: Lawyer

Political Highlights: Md. House, 1967-87 (Speaker, 1979-87); U.S. House, 1987-present



A career legislator known for his wonkish demeanor and grasp of economic policy, Benjamin L. Cardin is more likely to work behind the scenes than to seek the spotlight.

In many ways, that makes him an appropriate successor to Paul S. Sarbanes, the five-term senator best known for the sweeping 2002 corporate accounting law that bears his name.

Sarbanes' successor is a onetime "boy wonder" who was elected to the state legislature before he graduated from law school. And during Cardin's long service in the state House and then Congress, he demonstrated his mastery of many nuanced issues, such as IRAs and pension regulation.

Cardin hopes to serve on the Finance Committee, where he can focus on many of the same economic issues that he studied as an undergraduate and worked on during his tenure on the House Ways and Means Committee. Increasing workers' retirement savings has been a signature issue.

Cardin also is interested in international issues. He serves as the ranking Democrat on the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe and is a member of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus. Also, he is an outspoken critic of the Bush administration's foreign policy and voted against the 2002 resolution that authorized the use of military force in Iraq.

As the ranking Democrat on the Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee, Cardin has backed some free-trade pacts in the past, but he also stresses the need to protect U.S. jobs. He opposed a deal with Oman in 2006, and he opposed a 2002 bill increasing the president's authority in trade talks.

Cardin takes pride in being a lawmaker who is willing to work across party lines to develop consensus. In the Senate, that willingness may mark him as a Democrat whom Republicans will try to woo on certain issues. But Cardin's approach can anger senior members of his own party. In 2006, party leaders in the House passed him over for the top Democratic spot on the Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee after he said he was open to compromise on some GOP proposals for overhauling the benefits program.

Although Cardin may not be an outspoken firebrand for liberal causes, he will likely be a dependable Democratic vote on most social issues. He consistently votes with most other Democrats on issues such as abortion, gay rights, the environment and taxes.

MINNESOTA

Amy Klobuchar, D

Pronounced: KLO-buh-shar

Election: Defeated Rep. Mark Kennedy, R, to succeed Mark Dayton, D, who retired

Home: Minneapolis

Born: May 25, 1960, Plymouth, Minn.

Religion: Congregationalist

Family: Husband, John Bessler; one child

Education: Yale U., B.A. 1982; U. of Chicago, J.D. 1985

Career: Lawyer; lobbyist

Political Highlights: Hennepin County attorney, 1999-present



As the chief prosecutor for Hennepin County for eight years, Amy Klobuchar touts her record of pursuing white-collar criminals as well as rapists and drunk drivers.

She describes her approach as tough but fair, not only as a prosecutor but also as the daughter of longtime Minneapolis Star Tribune newspaper columnist Jim Klobuchar, whom she helped recover from alcoholism. Personal accountability was a key theme in her campaign.

While expressing admiration for Democrat Mark Dayton, whom she is succeeding, and Paul Wellstone, who served from 1991 until he died in 2002, Klobuchar indicates that she will be a more moderate voice in the Senate. She is a fiscal conservative with a populist streak.

Shrinking the federal deficit and providing middle class tax relief were cornerstones of her campaign. She advocates a return to the pay-as-you-go model of budgeting, where proposed tax cuts or spending increases must be offset so as not to enlarge the deficit. She argues that reductions in spending and tax loopholes could shrink the deficit while also paying for tax credits for first-time home buyers.

Klobuchar hopes to tackle the energy issue by setting strict energy standards and promoting alternative energy sources through tax incentives. She would like 10 percent of fuel and electricity consumption in 2010 to be derived from renewable energy sources. Minnesotans could benefit economically from an expanded market for ethanol or wind power, she says. She has expressed interest in serving on the Agriculture Committee to support Minnesota farmers.

Although she opposed the invasion of Iraq, Klobuchar is against immediate withdrawal. She favors a more gradual re-deployment that involves countries in the region.

In 1995, Klobuchar's daughter was born with a health problem. Although the baby was kept at the hospital, Klobuchar was discharged after 24 hours because her health plan would not pay for a longer stay. As a private citizen, she successfully advocated for a state law to guarantee new mothers 48 hours in the hospital. In the Senate, she plans to work toward the goal of universal health coverage. As a first step, the federal government should work with states to ensure that all children are insured, she says.

In her first election as county attorney in 1998, she beat Republican Rep. Jim Ramstad's sister, Sheryl.

MISSOURI

Claire McCaskill, D

Election: Defeated Sen. Jim Talent, R
Home: Kirkwood
Born: July 24, 1953, Rolla, Mo.
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Husband, Joseph Shepard; seven children
Education: U. of Missouri, B.A. 1975, J.D. 1978
Career: Lawyer; city prosecutor
Political Highlights: Mo. House, 1983-89; sought Democratic nomination for Jackson County prosecutor, 1988; Jackson County Legislature, 1991-93; Jackson County prosecutor, 1993-99; Mo. auditor, 1999-present; Democratic nominee for governor, 2004



As a longtime state auditor and former prosecutor, Claire McCaskill spent much of her time on the campaign trail arguing that Congress needs to sharpen its oversight skills. Now, she'll have a chance to show how it can be done.

McCaskill's signature issue as a candidate was her call for a new "Truman committee" to investigate profiteering in the Iraq War, a popular idea that has also been pushed by several Democratic lawmakers. It would be based on a special Senate committee in the 1940s headed by Harry S Truman, then a senator from Missouri, that examined fraud and shortages during World War II.

McCaskill is known for her off-the-cuff speeches and pithy one-liners. She says her response to Republicans who say they joined the party because they're fiscal conservatives is, "How's that working out for you?"

She depicts herself as someone who would take wasteful spending and channel it into more useful purposes. One of them, she says, should be a tax cut package for the middle class that would create a larger tax deduction for college tuition, a bigger child care tax credit and a new credit for people buying a home for the first time.

McCaskill has called the Iraq war "a mess." But she said the troops' sacrifices should be honored with a "military bill of rights" that would provide them with better equipment, make up any lost salary for overseas National Guard or Reserve members, and give them better health care coverage.

McCaskill's background as a state auditor could make her a candidate for a seat on the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, which scrutinizes the efficiency of federal departments and agencies, or the Finance Committee, which would handle her tax proposals.

On other domestic policy issues, McCaskill will likely fit in comfortably with her Democratic colleagues. She calls for greater education funding, wants to let Medicare negotiate for lower drug prices and wants to encourage the development of alternative fuels and energy-efficient technologies.

McCaskill was born into a political family, with a father who served as state insurance director and a mother who was the first woman to serve on the Columbia City Council. Her election to the Senate comes just two years after Republican Matt Blunt, the son of House Majority Whip Roy Blunt, defeated her in a bid to become governor.

MONTANA

Jon Tester, D

Election: Defeated Sen. Conrad Burns, R
Home: Big Sandy
Born: Aug. 21, 1956, Havre, Mont.
Religion: Church of God
Family: Wife, Sharla Tester; two children
Education: College of Great Falls, B.A. 1978
Career: Farmer; teacher
Political Highlights: Big Sandy School Board of Trustees, 1983-92 (chairman, 1986-91); Mont. Senate, 1999-present (minority whip, 2001-03; minority leader, 2003-05; president, 2005-present)



Whether the issue is statewide electricity deregulation or national security, Jon Tester says he is looking to make the world better for future generations.

"If you're not happy with things, you need to get in there and serve and be a leader, and that's what I tried to do," he said.

Tester's primary goal, he said, is to fix the health care crisis, an issue that has hit Montana particularly hard: One in five residents there is uninsured.

"It affects everybody, it cuts across all lines," he said. "And right now it's tough and the system's broken, and I think we need to do some things to fix it."

To that end, Tester says, he would consider any potential solution, including tax incentives and plans that would allow small businesses and the self-employed to join a large insurance "pool" — two measures the state legislature used to fully fund children's health care with Tester as Montana Senate president.

With his background as a farmer and small-business owner, Tester said he also would be interested in helping small businesses and in agricultural issues. His other interest is national security, which, he says, Congress has not adequately addressed.

Tester has said he will call for a clear plan to transfer military authority to Iraqis in that conflict and bring U.S. troops home, and to fully fund border and port security.

His committee aspirations, meanwhile, have received a boost from the leadership, which has promised the freshman a seat on the coveted Appropriations Committee "as soon as possible."

Tester describes himself as a fiscal conservative who views government's top responsibility as taking care of "the folks who need help."

"Government should be there to facilitate and use carrots instead of sticks to help move policy," he said.

Tester was motivated to become involved in politics when the Montana Legislature pursued electricity deregulation in 1997 — a policy, he said, that made less sense the more he knew about it. His interest in and focus on public service grew from there.

"If people are in this for the self-interest, they're probably not going to get along with me very well," he said. "If people are in it for making good policy for the public, then we can work together."

OHIO

Sherrod Brown, D**Election:** Defeated Sen. Mike DeWine, R**Home:** Avon**Born:** Nov. 9, 1952, Mansfield, Ohio**Religion:** Lutheran**Family:** Wife, Connie Schultz; two children, two stepchildren**Education:** Yale U., B.A. 1974; Ohio State U., M.A. 1979, M.A. 1981**Career:** College instructor**Political Highlights:** Ohio House, 1975-83; Ohio secretary of state, 1983-91; defeated for re-election as Ohio secretary of state, 1990; U.S. House, 1993-present

Sherrod Brown opposed President Bush's stated position more frequently in 2005 than any other member of Congress. He espouses a liberal populism that is a sharp departure from the moderately conservative views of Republican Sen. Mike DeWine, whom he defeated. Indeed, Brown's views are much like those of DeWine's Democratic predecessor, Howard M. Metzenbaum (1974, 1976-95).

Brown made a mark in the House — as he probably will in the more exclusive Senate — for his vigorous opposition to trade pacts such as NAFTA and CAFTA, which he says have decimated the manufacturing industry in his state and across the nation. The author of a 2004 book, "The Myths of Free Trade," he would revise trade pacts to include incentives for corporations that create jobs in this country and do not outsource them abroad.

A vigorous advocate of increasing the minimum wage, Brown will side with labor unions on this issue and nearly every other. In 10 of his 13 full years in the House, Brown received a 100 percent score from the AFL-CIO. He wears his allegiance on his chest — literally: A lapel pin depicting a canary in a cage serves as a reminder that miners a century ago brought canaries into shafts to determine if there were toxic gases.

People are living longer and have a better quality of life, Brown says, because of "what progressives have fought for" over the past century — including programs such as Social Security, Medicare, workers' compensation, pension guarantees, and clean air and water.

Brown strongly opposes the Bush administration's strategy in Iraq and would instruct the military to devise an "exit strategy" to withdraw troops over the next 18 to 24 months. Brown says he wants to spend his first day as a senator sitting down with Republican Sens. John W. Warner of Virginia and Chuck Hagel of Nebraska to "begin to work on a bipartisan effort to redeploy our troops out of Iraq. That's what we need to do."

He opposed a 2005 overhaul of energy laws and the 2003 Medicare prescription drug law, which Brown says were a boon to big energy companies and the pharmaceutical industry. He would rescind tax cuts for wealthy taxpayers while using them to help middle-class families, including providing breaks for college tuition.

PENNSYLVANIA

Bob Casey, D**Election:** Defeated Sen. Rick Santorum, R**Home:** Scranton**Born:** April 13, 1960, Scranton, Pa.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife, Terese Casey; four children**Education:** College of the Holy Cross, A.B. 1982; Catholic U. of America, J.D. 1988**Career:** Lawyer; campaign aide**Political Highlights:** Pa. auditor general, 1997-2005; sought Democratic nomination for governor, 2002; Pa. treasurer, 2005-present

Although his views on some social issues may put him at odds with his Democratic colleagues, Bob Casey is sure to win plaudits in the cloakroom for his election victory over a major nemesis, Republican Conference Chairman Rick Santorum, the third-ranking member of the GOP leadership.

Casey is the namesake son of the late popular former Pennsylvania governor. The younger Casey, who has served as state treasurer, is a mild-mannered politician who has tailored himself as an economic populist but a social moderate. He says he will be an "independent" senator.

A Roman Catholic, Casey opposes abortion rights and expanding the role of the federal government in stem cell research. And he parts ways with most of his Democratic colleagues in his opposition to gun control. However, he supports the government's recent decision to allow non-prescription sales of Plan B, or the "morning-after" emergency contraceptive pill, to women 18 and older.

On health care, Casey has said he would work to stop "draconian cuts to Medicare and Medicaid" and called the Medicare Part D prescription drug plan a "mess." He proposes using the State Children's Health Insurance Program, which is up for reauthorization next year, to cover all uninsured children. He also supports a plan to create a health benefits program that would help small businesses.

On economic issues, he may hew closer to his Democratic colleagues. He says he will seek a repeal of recent tax cuts for people making more than \$200,000 a year and retain a tax on very large estates. He supports targeted tax cuts for the middle class. Casey, who calls himself a fiscally responsible leader, favors the pay-as-you-go budget process, which requires revenue offsets to compensate for any spending increases.

Casey has less experience with foreign policy. He has said that, knowing what is known now about Iraq, he would have not supported the war. He pushes for a "clear exit strategy" but refuses to support a timetable for U.S. troop withdrawals. He also favors research on missile defense.

Casey opposes amnesty for illegal immigrants but has said he would reluctantly support a Senate bill that would allow illegal immigrants to earn citizenship after meeting certain requirements.

He also has registered opposition to recent free-trade pacts, including the Central American Free Trade Agreement.

RHODE ISLAND

Sheldon Whitehouse, D**Election:** Defeated Sen. Lincoln Chafee, R**Home:** Providence**Born:** Oct. 20, 1955, Manhattan, N.Y.**Religion:** Episcopalian**Family:** Wife, Sandra Whitehouse; two children**Education:** Yale U., B.A. 1978; U. of Virginia, J.D. 1982**Career:** Lawyer; gubernatorial aide**Political Highlights:** R.I. Department of Business Regulation director, 1992-94; U.S. attorney, 1994-98; R.I. attorney general, 1999-2003; sought Democratic nomination for governor, 2002

Sheldon Whitehouse argues that his background as a U.S. attorney and state attorney general may be one of his best assets in a Congress that has been reeling for months from allegations of malfeasance.

"From the looks of it, having another prosecutor in Washington doesn't look like a bad idea right now," he said.

Whitehouse's plan to change the laws governing lobbyists echoes his party's congressional leadership on the issue, including proposals to establish an independent ethics commission and extend to two years the period that former members of Congress, senior staff and executive branch officials must wait before they can register to be lobbyists.

Those kinds of changes in lobbying rules would help "make it harder for our elected officials who violate our laws," Whitehouse said.

He also says he will take on the special interests when it comes to health issues, which Whitehouse calls his "No. 1 priority" as a senator. He has called for Congress to "scrap the new Medicare prescription drug plan" and replace it with "a plan that will work." He favors changing the 2003 Medicare law to give the federal government the power to bargain on prescription drug prices and making it easier for seniors to get coverage.

On Iraq, Whitehouse has called for a "rapid and responsible withdrawal" of U.S. troops to "responsibly extricate ourselves" from the conflict. To get all or most of the U.S. forces out of Iraq, he said, "We need to make it clear to the Iraqis and to other nations that we are in withdrawal mode."

The former prosecutor also plans to continue his fight for tough gun control legislation — a battle he pursued as a federal attorney — and to work for legislation that would help local law enforcement fight gun crime and hold gunmakers and dealers "accountable for their actions."

Those interests and Whitehouse's legal background might make him a contender for a Judiciary Committee opening.

Whitehouse unseated a Republican senator who was considered sympathetic to many key Democratic positions, including energy policy and the environment. For instance, Whitehouse and his predecessor both favor raising Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for automakers. But Whitehouse argues that Washington has disappointed Rhode Island residents on these and other issues.

TENNESSEE

Bob Corker, R**Election:** Defeated Harold E. Ford Jr., D, to succeed Bill Frist, R, who retired**Home:** Chattanooga**Born:** Aug. 24, 1952, Orangeburg, S.C.**Religion:** Protestant**Family:** Wife, Elizabeth Corker; two children**Education:** U. of Tennessee, B.S. 1974**Career:** Commercial real estate developer; construction company owner**Political Highlights:** Sought Republican nomination for U.S. Senate, 1994; Tenn. Finance and Administration Department commissioner, 1995-96; mayor of Chattanooga, 2001-05

Republican Bob Corker went from construction worker to wealthy real estate developer; similarly, his Senate campaign went from underdog status to one of the most closely watched races in the country. Bolstered by personal wealth and national party support, Corker held this pivotal Senate seat for the Republican Party, which can now count on this conservative to support its agenda.

Corker has pledged to support parental consent for minors seeking abortions, a ban on the procedure that opponents call "partial birth" abortion and a ban on taxpayer-funded abortions. Corker also supports a constitutional amendment that defines marriage as a union between one man and one woman.

His desire to enter public service grew from his religious beliefs. After participating in a mission trip to Haiti more than 20 years ago, Corker said, he was prompted to start a non-profit group in Tennessee to generate low-income housing loans, which led to his start in the public sector.

He simultaneously built a successful construction company that led to profitable real estate holdings and says his business experience offered him a first-hand look at the challenges that small businesses and working-class people face.

Corker's working-man roots were a theme in many of his advertisements, and he has already pledged to bring job growth specifically to Arnold Air Force Base by locating a Common Battlefield Airman Training program at that site. He estimates that it would bring "as many as 1,000 instructors and staff" and educate airmen with a role in the country's national security.

Making the president's 2001 and 2003 tax cuts permanent is also on Corker's agenda, which he notes is especially important for his state's family farms and businesses.

He also believes in promoting alternative energy sources such as ethanol and biodiesel. He previously worked on the issue as mayor of Chattanooga and credits his efforts for a building in the city's downtown that runs on hydrogen fuel-cell technology.

He emphasizes the need to lower the cost of health care and expressed his support for health savings accounts as well as associated health plans for small businesses.

Corker also can be expected to side with the GOP on immigration legislation: He took a hard line on illegal immigration during his campaign.

LEADING AT PRESS TIME

VIRGINIA

Jim Webb, D

Election: Opposed Sen. George Allen, R**Home:** Falls Church**Born:** Feb. 9, 1946, St. Joseph, Mo.**Religion:** Protestant**Family:** Wife, Hong Le Webb; four children**Education:** U. of Southern California, attended 1963-64; U.S. Naval Academy, B.S. 1968; Georgetown U., J.D. 1975**Military:** Marine Corps, 1968-72**Career:** Author; screenwriter; journalist; U.S. Defense Department official; congressional aide; lawyer**Political Highlights:** Navy secretary, 1987-88

It's difficult to find a senator with the depth and breadth of experience that Jim Webb has. A Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War, he has served as a Navy secretary and a congressional committee counsel and also is an award-winning journalist. "I can bring to the table . . . a variety of experiences that will allow me to see a lot of these issues differently," Webb said.

He surely will have outsize influence for a freshman senator when the congressional debate turns to Iraq policy — the signature issue of his upset victory over George Allen.

Not only does Webb's military background give him added credibility in discussing the war, he also was an early dissenter of the Bush administration's decision in 2002 to conduct military operations in Iraq.

Webb — who shed his longtime GOP affiliation over the administration's Iraq policy — says the invasion was a "strategic blunder" that has exacerbated terrorism.

"Our foreign policy is in a state of complete disarray as a result of the invasion and occupation of Iraq," Webb said.

Webb advocates a diplomatic solution involving countries that are close to Iraq and also are historically and culturally invested in that country. He will push the administration to say unequivocally that the United States will not be a long-term presence in Iraq.

Webb also will be a voice for greater oversight of the administration. He said the skyrocketing number of classified documents during Bush's presidency shows the "weakness of Congress in a one-party system" in providing adequate oversight.

Webb is concerned about some effects of economic globalization, which he says include "outsourcing" American jobs overseas, a greater concentration of wealth at the top of the economic spectrum and stagnating wages for the middle class. He supports increasing the minimum wage.

Webb supports repealing tax breaks for wealthy taxpayers and closing off corporate loopholes that allow companies to avoid paying taxes. He supports targeted middle-class tax reductions, including credits to ease the cost of college tuition.

He would simplify and overhaul the 2003 Medicare prescription drug law to allow the federal government to negotiate drug prices. On health coverage, Webb backs a plan by Massachusetts GOP Gov. Mitt Romney that requires all state residents to buy health insurance and provides expanded incentives for employers to cover them. He also supports embryonic stem cell research.

VERMONT

Bernard Sanders, I

Election: Defeated Rich Tarrant, R, to succeed

James M. Jeffords, I, who retired

Home: Burlington**Born:** Sept. 8, 1941, Brooklyn, N.Y.**Religion:** Jewish**Family:** Wife, Jane Sanders; four children**Education:** Brooklyn College, attended 1959-60; U. of Chicago, B.A. 1964**Career:** College instructor; freelance writer; documentary filmmaker; carpenter**Political Highlights:** Liberty Union candidate for governor, 1976; mayor of Burlington, 1981-89; independent candidate for governor, 1986; independent candidate for U.S. House, 1988; U.S. House, 1991-present

After 16 years as arguably the House's most prominent left-wing member, independent Bernard Sanders will be taking his brand of "Democratic socialism" to the Senate.

Rumpled in appearance and informal in manner, Sanders doesn't much fit the traditional image of a U.S. senator. He is known for his passionate activism and the firmness of his political convictions.

In the House, Sanders voted the Democratic line more than 95 percent of the time, a pattern he probably will repeat in the Senate.

Sanders often rails against "corporate greed," with particular attention to the pharmaceutical industry. He has led constituents across the Canadian border to buy prescription drugs at prices that are lower than those in United States. He wants to pass legislation lowering drug costs and strengthening Medicare benefits for seniors. He has also been a long-time proponent of universal health care.

A vocal opponent of the war in Iraq, Sanders seeks the withdrawal of U.S. troops "as soon as feasible." He says he wants a seat on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, where his predecessor, James M. Jeffords, another independent, has served.

In the House, Sanders has been a vocal proponent of civil liberties. He says the government can fight terrorism without "undermining the basic constitutional rights" of individuals. He sought to repeal a part of the Patriot Act that gave federal investigators access to the shopping and reading habits of bookstore and library patrons.

Sanders has been a high-ranking minority member of the House Financial Services Committee, using that perch to frame economic issues in terms of how they affect workers.

He says major international trade agreements, including normalized trade relations with China, have been detrimental to the U.S. economy, causing corporations to send thousands of manufacturing jobs overseas. "I think Congress has got to tell these guys, who've received billions of dollars in corporate welfare from the American taxpayer, enough is enough," he said on CNN in 2005.

Sanders, who receives high marks from environmentalists, says the nation must completely overhaul its energy policy, with an emphasis on conservation and developing renewable sources. He also supports increased government subsidies to help low-income people heat their homes in the winter.

ARIZONA (5)

Harry E. Mitchell, D

Election: Defeated Rep. J.D. Hayworth, R
Home: Tempe

Born: July 18, 1940, Phoenix, Ariz.

Religion: Roman Catholic

Family: Wife, Marianne Mitchell; two children

Education: Arizona State U., B.A. 1962, M.P.A. 1980

Career: High school, college instructor

Political Highlights: Tempe City Council, 1970-78; mayor of Tempe, 1978-94; sought Democratic nomination for superintendent of public instruction, 1994; Ariz. Senate, 1999-2006; Ariz. Democratic Party chairman, 2005-06

Harry E. Mitchell knows a thing or two about challenging powerful incumbents — and winning.

During his 32 years in office, each time he has run for a new position he has faced off against a GOP incumbent in a heavily Republican area.

Mitchell enters Congress already a legend in his hometown, Tempe, which erected a statue of him in honor of his 16 years as mayor.

Prohibited by term limits from running for re-election to the state Senate, he says he considered the House race only after seeing Republican J.D. Hayworth's falling favorability ratings in district polls. "To tell you the truth, I wasn't out there looking for this job," he said.

Mitchell plans to use the political skills he cultivated in Arizona to work with Republicans on Capitol Hill. Not surprisingly, the issue at the top of his list is immigration. He prefers coupling heightened border security and surveillance with a guest worker program. His district, with just 3 percent unemployment, relies heavily on immigrant labor.

A high school civics teacher for more than three decades, Mitchell plans to make a bid for the Education and the Workforce Committee. Because of his classroom experiences, he is convinced that more money is needed for English programs and the No Child Left Behind education law. Another priority of his is federal funding for stem cell research.



ARIZONA (8)

Gabrielle Giffords, D

Election: Defeated Randy Graf, R, to succeed Jim Kolbe, R, who retired

Home: Tucson

Born: June 8, 1970, Tucson, Ariz.

Religion: Jewish

Family: Engaged to Mark Kelly

Education: Scripps College, B.A. 1993; Cornell U., M.R.P. 1997

Career: Property management company owner; retail tire company president; regional economic and employment analyst

Political Highlights: Ariz. House, 2001-03; Ariz. Senate, 2003-05

When her father became ill in the mid-1990s, Gabrielle Giffords left a New York consulting job to take over the family tire and automotive business in Tucson. During those years, the former Fulbright scholar developed a taste for politics with her morning coffee and newspaper.

Giffords remembers reading how Arizona fared poorly in national rankings for social indicators — teenage pregnancy, dropout rates and teenage suicide, to name a few. "Issue after issue, my home was at the bottom," she said. "I looked around and thought, 'Who is making the choices here?'"

Giffords sold the family business in 2000 and won a seat in the Arizona House, moved on to the state Senate and now takes over for Republican Rep. Jim Kolbe, who is retiring after 22 years representing the 8th District.

Giffords defeated a Republican opponent who touted a tough enforcement-first approach to immigration.

Arizona has produced a prominent list of Washington consensus-builders including Morris K. Udall, Barry Goldwater, John McCain and Sandra Day O'Connor. Giffords says she wants to carry on that tradition, and that the biggest challenge facing Congress is reducing partisanship.

Giffords says she hopes to land an assignment with the Energy and Commerce Committee and also is interested in Appropriations.



CALIFORNIA (11)

Jerry McNerney, D

Election: Defeated Rep. Richard W. Pombo, R

Home: Pleasanton

Born: June 18, 1951, Albuquerque, N.M.

Religion: Roman Catholic

Family: Wife, Mary McNerney; three children

Education: U.S. Military Academy, attended 1969-71; U. of New Mexico, B.S. 1973, M.S. 1975, Ph.D. 1981

Career: Wind engineering company owner; wind engineer; renewable energy consultant and researcher

Political Highlights: Democratic nominee for U.S. House, 2004

In his first foray into elected office, California businessman Jerry McNerney plans to spend most of his energy in the House on the issue that helped him land his upset victory and in which he has spent much of his career — energy.

The wind turbine company executive is eyeing a spot on the Energy and Commerce Committee and hopes to be a leading voice for ethanol, biodiesel and other renewable energy sources, which he says would benefit his largely agricultural district east of San Francisco. He says he also will spend time pushing for advanced technologies, such as plug-in hybrids, to significantly improve the fuel efficiency of automobiles.

"We have to find new sources of energy," he said.

McNerney defeated seven-term Republican Richard W. Pombo, the House Resources chairman, with strong backing from environmental groups. He lost to Pombo in their first matchup in 2004.

Although McNerney has spent much of the past 22 years working in the energy industry, he says his frustration with the Iraq War and his son's service in the military spurred his candidacy. Therefore, a seat on the Armed Services, International Relations or Intelligence committees also interests him.

Education, and funding for states to implement national mandates are other issues that concern McNerney. He also cites overhauling the health care system as a priority.



CALIFORNIA (22)

Kevin McCarthy, R

Election: Defeated Sharon M. Beery, D, to succeed Bill Thomas, R, who retired
Home: Bakersfield
Born: Jan. 26, 1965, Bakersfield, Calif.
Religion: Baptist
Family: Wife, Judy McCarthy; two children
Education: Bakersfield College, attended 1984-85; California State U., Bakersfield, B.S. 1989, M.B.A. 1994
Career: Congressional district aide; deli owner
Political Highlights: Kern County Community College District Board of Trustees, 2000-02; Calif. Assembly, 2002-present (minority leader, 2004-06)



You could say Republican state Rep. Kevin McCarthy is a lucky guy: As a college student, he won \$5,000 in the state lottery, invested it successfully in the stock market and became a small-business owner, which helped him pay for college.

But McCarthy didn't need serendipity to succeed retiring 14-term Republican Bill Thomas, the outgoing chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

The two car aficionados developed a friendship when McCarthy served as Thomas' district director. When Thomas announced his retirement plans March 6, McCarthy, who was the first freshman to be chosen party leader in the California House, was an obvious successor.

A fourth-generation resident of Kern County, McCarthy was a virtual shoo-in after easily winning a June 6 primary.

On local issues, McCarthy says the district's economic linchpins of agriculture, oil, transportation, aerospace and the military will be foremost on his agenda. "Like every good freshman, I want to hit the ground running," he said. "I want to be able to be on committees that make the voice of our district heard."

Though Congress will lose one of its most legendary combatants when Thomas retires in January, his successor already plans to follow in his footsteps. "In the long run, people will respect you more, and at times they'll fear you as well, because they'll know you'll stand up for what you believe in," he said.

COLORADO (5)

Doug Lamborn, R

Pronounced: LAMB-born
Election: Defeated Jay Fawcett, D, to succeed Joel Hefley, R, who retired
Home: Colorado Springs
Born: May 24, 1954, Leavenworth, Kan.
Religion: Christian
Family: Wife, Jeanie Lamborn; five children
Education: U. of Kansas, B.S. 1978, J.D. 1985
Career: Lawyer
Political Highlights: Republican nominee for Kan. House, 1982; Colo. House, 1995-98; Colo. Senate, 1998-present (president pro tempore, 1999-2000)



Doug Lamborn's stance on the issues is popular with socially and fiscally conservative groups in Colorado and in Washington.

A Mountain West conservative, Lamborn vigorously defends private property rights and denounces increased governmental "eminent domain" powers.

Lamborn wants to make permanent all of President Bush's tax cuts, and vows not to support a tax increase while he's in Congress.

Lamborn supports legislation to establish association health plans, which would allow small businesses to band together to buy affordable health insurance, skirting state coverage mandates. He says the 2003 Medicare prescription drug law was a "costly mistake."

He opposes gun control and backs concealed-carry laws. He also opposes abortion rights and embryonic stem cell research.

Lamborn takes a hard line on illegal immigration. In the state Senate, he sponsored legislation to bar state and county agencies from providing public benefits to illegal immigrants.

The defense industry is a dominant presence in Colorado's 5th, and he wants to serve on the Armed Services Committee.

Lamborn says he also will work to improve water infrastructure in light of Colorado's occasional droughts and robust population growth.

COLORADO (7)

Ed Perlmutter, D

Election: Defeated Rick O'Donnell, R, to succeed Bob Beauprez, R, who ran for governor
Home: Golden
Born: May 1, 1953, Denver, Colo.
Religion: Protestant
Family: Wife, Deana Perlmutter; three children
Education: U. of Colorado, B.A. 1975, J.D. 1978
Career: Lawyer
Political Highlights: Colo. Senate, 1995-2003 (president pro tempore, 2001-03)



With a moderate image bur-nished as a state legislator, Ed Perlmutter reflects the centrism of his suburban Denver district. His constituents are an almost equal mix of Republicans, Democrats and independents, so his legislative agenda aims for the middle ground.

Perlmutter's top priority is stem cell research. Motivated by his youngest daughter's epilepsy, he has vowed to overcome President Bush's veto of a bill that would have lifted limits on funding of embryonic stem cell research.

Perlmutter's willingness to cross party lines in the Colorado Senate on certain issues may continue in Congress. He supports an immigration bill introduced by Rep. David Dreier, R-Calif., and a guest worker program similar to Bush's.

His most ambitious goals are found in his staunch support of renewable energy, an issue he has championed throughout his political career. He sees energy independence as a national goal akin to John F. Kennedy's challenge to land a man on the moon and supports the creation of a "Manhattan Project" government research program to meet this goal. This proposal will likely involve his district's National Renewable Energy Lab, the nation's primary renewable-energy research facility.

With his background as an attorney and renewable-energy advocate, he says he hopes to serve on the Judiciary and Energy and Commerce committees.

LEADING AT PRESS TIME CONNECTICUT (2)

Joe Courtney, D

Election: Opposed Rep. Rob Simmons, R
Home: Vernon
Born: April 6, 1953, Hartford, Conn.
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Wife, Audrey Budarz Courtney; two children
Education: Tufts U., B.A. 1975; U. of Connecticut, J.D. 1978
Career: Lawyer; public defender
Political Highlights: Conn. House, 1987-95; Democratic nominee for lieutenant governor, 1998; Democratic nominee for U.S. House, 2002

Joe Courtney comes to Congress with an extensive background in health care issues, but he realizes that freshmen typically have limited opportunities to exploit their strengths.



"There's lots of other issues that I think a freshman congressman from this district can work on . . . so I'm prepared to diversify," he said with a laugh.

Courtney was a leader on health issues while serving in the state legislature, but he says residents of his eastern Connecticut district have made clear that they also need a new voice on education and energy policies.

President Bush's No Child Left Behind education law, he says, has been "an incredibly bad fit" for Connecticut, which already has a strong public school system, while current energy policy has discouraged innovators working in renewable fuels from opening plants in the district. "We've really got a government that's just completely disconnected from that type of future," he said.

Courtney served as a staffer for Democratic former Rep. Sam Gejdenson (1981-2001) when Gejdenson was a state representative and Courtney was in law school; he said the experience opened his eyes to the fact that "politics isn't just a bunch of people sitting around and talking—I mean, things happen and you can actually do something."

If anything, he hopes that the Democratic caucus will begin 2007 by showing that "we have an agenda that is gonna move."

CONNECTICUT (5)

Christopher S. Murphy, D

Election: Defeated Rep. Nancy L. Johnson, R
Home: Cheshire
Born: Aug. 3, 1973, White Plains, N.Y.
Religion: Protestant
Family: Engaged to Cathy Holahan
Education: Williams College, B.A. 1996; U. of Connecticut, J.D. 2002
Career: Lawyer; state legislative and campaign aide
Political Highlights: Southington Planning & Zoning Commission, 1997-99; Conn. House, 1999-2003; Conn. Senate, 2003-present

Environmental issues were behind Christopher S. Murphy's first run for the Connecticut House, when, as a 24-year-old member of his local Planning and Zoning Commission, he found his state representative unresponsive to his calls to prevent a power plant from being built in wetlands.



"The system, it seemed, was broken," he wrote on his campaign Web site. "Local residents and town governments were not being given the authority needed to ensure that their precious natural resources would be preserved."

In the state legislature, Murphy has focused on health care as chairman of the General Assembly's Public Health Committee.

"Being healthy should be a right, not a privilege available only to those who can afford it," he said.

Murphy is looking to revamp the Medicare Part D prescription-drug-coverage legislation, with the goal of empowering seniors, reining in costs and reducing the complexity of the system.

He also has called for new leadership within the Defense Department, saying U.S. troops should be pulled out of Iraq as soon as possible, but only after other countries have committed to helping stabilize the country.

Moreover, Murphy says the Bush administration needs to account for the mistakes in Iraq policy, and he says he will be a "forceful voice in Congress for real answers" about the war.

FLORIDA (9)

Gus Bilirakis, R

Pronounced: bil-uh-RACK-iss
Election: Defeated Phyllis Busansky, D, to succeed Michael Bilirakis, R, who retired
Home: Palm Harbor
Born: Feb. 8, 1963, Gainesville, Fla.
Religion: Greek Orthodox
Family: Wife, Eva Bilirakis; four children
Education: St. Petersburg Junior College, attended 1981-83; U. of Florida, B.A. 1986; Stetson U., J.D. 1989
Career: Lawyer; college instructor
Political Highlights: Fla. House, 1998-present

Gus Bilirakis won his House seat almost as a legacy from his father, Michael Bilirakis, who has represented the Tampa-area district for 24 years. As a lawyer, the younger Bilirakis has specialized in estate planning, and he is expected to continue his father's emphasis on health care and other issues important to seniors, who make up about a quarter of the district's population.



Bilirakis' roots run deep in the district; his family, originally from Greece, settled there a century ago. His first taste of politics came at the age of seven, when he volunteered in a gubernatorial campaign.

When he joins the House, Bilirakis hopes to make a name for himself by advancing issues he has championed as a member of the Florida legislature, most notably making catastrophic homeowners' insurance and health insurance for low-income people more widely available.

In the Florida House, he has chaired several panels, including the Crime Prevention, the Public Safety Appropriations and the Economic Development, Trade & Banking committees.

Bilirakis says he has been a consensus-builder in his home state, willing to work across party lines to achieve common goals—a spirit of bipartisanship that he is optimistic he can bring to Washington.

"The people are different, but the issues are similar," he said.

FLORIDA (11)

Kathy Castor, D

Election: Defeated Eddie Adams Jr., R, to succeed Jim Davis, D, who ran for governor

Home: Tampa

Born: Aug. 20, 1966, Miami, Fla.

Religion: Presbyterian

Family: Husband, Bill Lewis; two children

Education: Emory U., B.A. 1988; Florida State U., J.D. 1991

Career: Lawyer

Political Highlights: Democratic nominee for Fla. Senate, 2000; Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners, 2002-present

The political fortunes of Florida's Castor family have turned sharply for the better with Kathy Castor's victory. Just two years ago, her mother, Democrat Betty Castor, lost a Senate bid to Florida Republican Mel Martinez by 1 percentage point.



The representative-elect attributes some of her success to her family name: Castor's mother was a local officeholder, a state education commissioner and president of the University of South Florida before running for Senate, and her father was a county judge.

In Congress, Castor says she will keep in mind her mother's political advice to "speak out and stand up for your neighbors and your community."

One local issue is offshore drilling. Castor hopes to join the Resources Committee, noting that Florida has lacked a voice in that debate. The Transportation and Infrastructure and the Energy and Commerce panels also are preferred assignments.

Castor has been working at the ground level on one issue, enrolling children ahead of next year's reauthorization of the federal Children's Health Insurance Program — a plan she says was based on a local version her mother helped create under the late Democratic Gov. Lawton Chiles.

Another priority is overhauling ethics rules and laws. Castor said Republicans "seem to be acting in a half-hearted fashion with some of their proposals."

FLORIDA (13)

Vern Buchanan, R

Election: Defeated Christine Jennings, D, to succeed Katherine Harris, R, who ran for Senate

Home: Sarasota

Born: May 8, 1951, Detroit, Mich.

Religion: Baptist

Family: Wife, Sandy Buchanan; two children

Education: Cleary College, B.B.A. 1975; U. of Detroit, M.B.A. 1986

Military: Mich. Air National Guard, 1970-76

Career: Car dealership owner; copy and printing company owner; marketing representative

Political Highlights: No previous office

Like many conservatives of his generation, Vern Buchanan looks to Ronald Reagan for his political inspiration. A self-described "self-made" business owner, Buchanan got the chance to meet his role model for the first time in 1984, when Vice President George Bush, with whom Buchanan was doing business, invited him to the White House.



Buchanan's basic political approach aligns with Reagan-era conservatism, emphasizing smaller government and, as he puts it, a philosophy of "everyone who can work should work." He identifies national defense as the federal government's highest priority and says he firmly favors the House-passed immigration bill.

"Border security first," he said. "Everything else comes after."

Because his Sarasota-Bradenton-area district is home to a large number of retirees, he says he will most likely seek a seat on the Veterans' Affairs Committee as well as the Small Business and Financial Services panels.

"I've served on bank boards for 20 years," he said. "And one of my big passions is going to be small business and enterprise."

Buchanan moved to Florida from Michigan in 1990 and has chaired several charity boards since then. He briefly considered running for the 13th District seat in 2002 but deferred to Katherine Harris, who decided to seek a Senate seat this year.

FLORIDA (16)

Tim Mahoney, D

Election: Defeated Joe Negron, R, to succeed Mark Foley, R, who resigned

Home: Palm Beach Gardens

Born: Aug. 15, 1956, Aurora, Ill.

Religion: Methodist

Family: Wife, Terry Mahoney; one child

Education: West Virginia U., B.A. 1978; George Washington U., M.B.A. 1983

Career: Investment banking firm owner; computer hardware company executive; sales and marketing executive

Political Highlights: No previous office

When Mark Foley's sexually explicit online messages to House pages became public, a once-safe Republican seat suddenly was set for a turnover. Tim Mahoney capitalized on the opportunity.



Mahoney comes to Congress as a successful Florida businessman, the co-founder of a financial services company and the founder of a nonprofit organization that works to foster the growth of entrepreneurship in the global economy. He also owns a 98-acre ranch in rural Florida where he, his wife and daughter spend their weekends.

One of the first issues he hopes to address is a topic the Republican-led Congress has wrestled with for years — the estate tax. Not surprisingly, given his background, the Democrat wants to focus on the tax's potential effects on family-owned farms and ranches. "Many Florida families who have been in ranching and farming for decades are being forced to sell off the family farm in order to pay the estate tax," Mahoney said. He hopes to promote a bipartisan, "common-sense" plan that will protect cash-strapped families from being forced to sell family land because they cannot afford to pay the tax.

In light of Florida's experience with hurricanes, Mahoney also plans to support a new effort to move the Federal Emergency Management Agency out of the Department of Homeland Security and make it a separate Cabinet-level agency.

New Members continued on page 33



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CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY INC.

FLORIDA (22)

Ron Klein, D

Election: Defeated Rep. E. Clay Shaw Jr., R
Home: Boca Raton
Born: July 10, 1957, Cleveland, Ohio
Religion: Jewish
Family: Wife, Dori Klein; two children
Education: Ohio State U., B.A. 1979; Case Western Reserve U., J.D. 1982
Career: Lawyer; lobbyist
Political Highlights: Fla. House, 1992-96; Fla. Senate, 1996-present (minority leader, 2002-04)



For years, Republicans have argued that voter loyalty to E. Clay Shaw Jr. would allow him to weather any election storm. This year, Democratic state Sen. Ron Klein proved them wrong.

"I think people are looking for some new energy, some new ideas," said Klein, adding that voters recognized that some lawmakers were more "interested in being re-elected... than solving problems."

Klein calls himself a "pro-business Democrat" who will support his party on many issues but is open to working across the aisle, something he believes Shaw was loath to do.

Klein listed the war in Iraq as his first order of business. Prior to Donald H. Rumsfeld's announced resignation, Klein had hoped to formally request replacement of the Defense secretary.

Klein wants to work on Social Security and Medicare, issues handled by the powerful Ways and Means Committee, where Shaw is a senior member and Trade Subcommittee chairman.

That assignment normally would be a reach for a freshman, but Democratic leaders may be sympathetic to the congressman's pitch. With the resignation of Republican Rep. Mark Foley and Klein's defeat of Shaw, Florida is losing its only Ways and Means committee members. The panel's work is critical to Florida's huge senior population; in Klein's district, 21 percent of residents are 65 and older.

GEORGIA (4)

Hank Johnson, D

Election: Defeated Catherine Davis, R, after defeating Rep. Cynthia A. McKinney in the primary
Home: Lithonia
Born: Oct. 2, 1954, Washington, D.C.
Religion: Buddhist
Family: Wife, Mereda Davis Johnson; two children
Education: Clark College, B.A. 1976; Texas Southern U., J.D. 1979
Career: Lawyer; county judge
Political Highlights: Sought Democratic nomination for Ga. House, 1986; DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, 2001-06



Hank Johnson says he's well aware of the expanded role he's about to assume as a House member.

"Coming to Congress — it's a little bit further removed from the people, and you deal with national and international issues," Johnson said.

Johnson hopes to address his district's transportation issues as his first order of business, along with pursuing federal help for Georgia's education system.

While he jokes that he would "most certainly accommodate" leadership requests to serve on the powerful Appropriations, Ways and Means, or Energy and Commerce committees, he says he also would be content with Financial Services or Transportation and Infrastructure.

Regardless of his committee assignments, Johnson said he plans to work with fellow lawmakers in much the same way he did as a DeKalb county commissioner. Contrasting himself with Cynthia A. McKinney, his controversial predecessor, he says he has never been a "divisive" figure. He hopes the collegial approach he brings to Congress will win positive reviews back home.

"I'm also looking forward to people being able to say that Hank Johnson was able to work with other people to bring home the bacon for our district and we're proud of the way that he conducted himself," he said.

HAWAII (2)

Mazie K. Hirono, D

Pronounced: may-ZEE hee-RO-no
Election: Defeated Bob Hogue, R, to succeed Ed Case, D, who ran for Senate
Home: Honolulu
Born: Nov. 3, 1947, Fukushima, Japan
Religion: Buddhist
Family: Husband, Leighton Kim Oshima; one stepchild
Education: U. of Hawaii, B.A. 1970; Georgetown U., J.D. 1978
Career: Lawyer; campaign and state legislative aide
Political Highlights: Hawaii House, 1981-94; lieutenant governor, 1994-2002; Democratic nominee for governor, 2002



Mazie K. Hirono lists transportation as her top local priority, saying Hawaii needs more federal resources to build infrastructure and ease gridlock.

Health care and prescription drug costs also are high on her agenda.

Hirono says she is proud that she will be among the small number of foreign-born members of Congress. "I think that I truly exemplify the American dream as an immigrant who came here with nothing, not speaking the language," said Hirono. "This is what motivates me to run for office and make a difference by giving back through political service."

Hirono says she will be an advocate on Capitol Hill for "working men and women." She complains that the No Child Left Behind education law put an "overemphasis on testing," and she wants to be heavily involved when Congress attempts to reauthorize it.

Four years ago, Hirono was seen by some in her party as a has-been: The incumbent lieutenant governor lost the governor's race to Republican Linda Lingle, ending a Democratic gubernatorial winning streak in the state that extended back to 1962.

Yet the exposure she received during that campaign played a part in her successful bid for Congress. Hirono sees herself as a successor to another Democrat who held the seat, the late Patsy T. Mink (1965-77, 1990-2002), known as an activist liberal.

IDAHO (1)

Bill Sali, R**Pronounced:** Like "Sally"**Election:** Defeated Larry E. Grant, D, to succeed Rep. C.L. "Butch" Otter, R, who ran for governor**Home:** Kuna**Born:** Feb. 17, 1954, Portsmouth, Ohio**Religion:** Evangelical**Family:** Wife, Terry Sali; six children**Education:** Boise State U., B.B.A. 1981; U. of Idaho, J.D. 1984**Career:** Lawyer; musician; heavy equipment warehouse clerk**Political Highlights:** Idaho House, 1990-present

Bill Sali is known equally well for his principled stands and his blunt rhetoric, particularly against abortion and taxes.



In the Idaho legislature, he also has earned a reputation for ruffling the feathers of other lawmakers, including fellow Republicans.

Sali angered state House Speaker Bruce Newcomb, a Republican, and Minority Leader Wendy Jaquet, a Democrat, in April by referring to a disputed study that linked abortion and breast cancer. Jaquet — a breast cancer survivor — stormed off the floor, prompting Newcomb to berate Sali for showing a lack of sensitivity.

Although Sali's friction with party leaders may occasionally hurt his legislative efforts, he says he tries to make principled decisions, regardless of their popularity. He has often pledged that he would not be a "go along to get along" congressman.

Beyond the abortion debate, Sali opposes gay marriage, supports overhauling immigration law, and favors allowing religious displays on public property.

On economic issues, he argues for a smaller, less obtrusive government.

"It's government's job to respect and protect the rights of the individual. That vision is centrally important to the principle put forth by the Founding Fathers," Sali said. "If you don't believe that, you shouldn't be in Congress."

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ILLINOIS (6)

Peter Roskam, R

Election: Defeated Tammy Duckworth, D, to succeed Henry J. Hyde, R, who retired
Home: Wheaton
Born: Sept. 13, 1961, Hinsdale, Ill.
Religion: Anglican
Family: Wife, Elizabeth Roskam; four children
Education: U. of Illinois, B.A. 1983; Illinois Institute of Technology, J.D. 1989
Career: Lawyer; education scholarship nonprofit executive director; congressional aide; teacher
Political Highlights: Ill. House, 1993-99; sought Republican nomination for U.S. House, 1998; Ill. Senate, 2000-present

Peter Roskam's campaign to fill a seat held for 32 years by Henry J. Hyde could only benefit from any similarities between the two lawmakers — and those similarities are not hard to find.



Roskam, like his predecessor, is known for his ardent opposition to abortion rights. As a state senator, he led the charge against state funding for a procedure opponents call "partial birth" abortion, and he supports outlawing abortions in all cases except when a woman's life is at risk.

The former Capitol Hill staff member also has fought against state funding of embryonic stem cell research.

Like Hyde, Roskam promises voters that he will work to lower their taxes. He also supports legislation that would grant the president the line-item veto. "Spending is out of control in Washington," said Roskam. "I believe the president, regardless of party affiliation, should have the power of the line-item veto."

Despite his enthusiasm for cutting spending, Roskam says he would not try to end the practice of earmarking funds for projects back home. Instead, he says he would take advantage of any opportunity to help steer funding toward his district.

But the conservative Republican parts ways with Hyde on at least one major issue: gun control. Roskam's record in state office reflects an enduring support of gun owner rights.

ILLINOIS (17)

Phil Hare, D

Election: Defeated Andrea Lane Zinga, R, to succeed Lane Evans, D, who retired
Home: Rock Island
Born: Feb. 21, 1949, Galesburg, Ill.
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Wife, Beckie Hare; two children
Education: Alleman H.S., graduated 1967; Moline Community College, attended 1967-68, attended 1974-74
Military: Army Reserve, 1969-75
Career: Congressional district director; campaign aide; clothing factory worker
Political Highlights: No previous office

Like his predecessor, Phil Hare is expected to be among the most consistently liberal voices in Congress.



A former union steward at a clothing factory, Hare backs "prevailing wage" laws and increasing the federal minimum wage. The 17th has been battered by a loss of manufacturing jobs. Hare supports a bill by Illinois Democratic Rep. Jan Schakowsky that aims to curb "outsourcing" of jobs overseas.

Hare will replace Lane Evans; he served as Evans' top district aide for the past 24 years. The experience "has prepared me very well for this job," Hare said. Evans withdrew from his re-election campaign as a result of his long battle with Parkinson's disease, and endorsed Hare.

Hare says he will be an "activist" freshman and a staunch backer of labor unions and military veterans.

"I may be a freshman congressman on Jan. 3, but my wife can tell you, I do have a big mouth, and I'm going to use it for working people," Hare said during the campaign.

He wants to serve on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, where Evans served as the ranking Democrat. "Any attempt by this administration to underfund [veterans'] health care — over my dead body," said Hare, who also seeks appointment to the Education and Workforce panel.

Hare considers health care "a right, not a privilege." He called the 2003 prescription drug law "one of the worst pieces of legislation that I've seen come out of Congress."

INDIANA (2)

Joe Donnelly, D

Election: Defeated Rep. Chris Chocola, R
Home: Granger
Born: Sept. 28, 1955, Queens, N.Y.
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Wife, Jill Donnelly; two children
Education: U. of Notre Dame, B.A. 1977, J.D. 1981
Career: Customized office products company owner; lawyer
Political Highlights: Democratic nominee for Ind. Senate, 1990; Democratic nominee for U.S. House, 2004

The second time was the charm for Joe Donnelly, who waged an 18-month campaign to unseat GOP incumbent Chris Chocola in a rematch after Chocola defeated him by 10 percentage points in 2004.



Although Donnelly is the owner and founder of a company that makes rubber stamps, House Democratic leaders cannot count on him to automatically support every party position. For example, the pro-gun Donnelly opposes abortion rights, amnesty for illegal immigrants and gay marriage.

He is critical of the Bush administration's handling of the war in Iraq but has cautioned against a timetable for exiting: "We can't walk out of Iraq. We have to stabilize that country, and we have to win."

Donnelly has expressed interest in serving on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, where he would seek more funding for veterans' health care. He also would like to serve on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. His third choice would be the Agriculture Committee. He advocates incentives to promote alternative energy sources.

He also intends to press for a minimum wage increase and to demand that labor and environmental standards be included in future trade agreements. He would have opposed trade agreements in recent years with Central America and Chile.

He supports reimportation of prescriptions drugs and urges increased technical training and education to equip young people for the workforce.

INDIANA (8)

Brad Ellsworth, D

Election: Defeated Rep. John Hostettler, R
Home: Evansville
Born: Sept. 11, 1958, Jasper, Ind.
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Wife, Beth Ellsworth; one child
Education: Indiana State U., Evansville, B.S. 1981; Indiana State U., M.S. 1993
Career: Police officer
Political Highlights: Vanderburgh County sheriff, 1999-present



Democrats in Indiana's 8th District had long viewed Brad Ellsworth, a charismatic local sheriff who calls himself a "conservative Democrat," as their best chance of unseating incumbent Republican John Hostettler.

Now that Ellsworth is a member of the 110th Congress, he is planning a delicate balancing act. That rightward lean could put him in frequent conflict with party leaders. And if he strays too far from the policy stances he took on the campaign trail, it could alienate the district's conservative, blue-collar voters.

"It's kind of funny, because the people who are more liberal say I'm way too conservative for them, and I see these [Republican Party] commercials that say I'm a liberal, so I guess I'm in no man's land," Ellsworth said, and added he would "try to bridge the gap between the two extremes."

Ellsworth favors gun rights, says he would have voted for a Republican enforcement-oriented immigration bill, opposes abortion rights and is against setting a withdrawal date from Iraq. But he also favors allowing prescription drug reimportation from Canada, backs implementing all recommendations of the Sept. 11 Commission, opposes allowing private investment of Social Security funds and is critical of Republican energy policies.

His campaign staff said prior to the election that it was "too early" to begin thinking about committee assignments.

INDIANA (9)

Baron P. Hill, D

Election: Defeated Rep. Mike Sodrel, R
Home: Seymour
Born: June 23, 1953, Seymour, Ind.
Religion: Methodist
Family: Wife, Betty Hill; three children
Education: Furman U., B.A. 1975
Career: Financial adviser; state student assistance commission executive director; state legislative aide; insurance company manager
Political Highlights: Ind. House, 1982-90; Democratic nominee for U.S. Senate, 1990; U.S. House, 1999-2005; defeated for re-election to U.S. House, 2004



Baron P. Hill isn't an unfamiliar figure on Capitol Hill: He returns to Washington after a two-year hiatus, having narrowly lost his seat to Republican Rep. Mike Sodrel in the 2004 election.

Achieving energy independence from oil companies is a high priority for Hill. In Congress, he says, he'll promote the use of ethanol, biodiesel and wind energy, and increased tax credits for owners of hybrid vehicles.

Given his interest in environmental issues, he would not be displeased with a seat on the Agriculture Committee, which will take up the 2007 farm bill in the 110th Congress. Hill sat on the same committee in the 108th Congress and was part of the effort to pass the 2002 farm law.

A spot on the Armed Services Committee also would be familiar for Hill, who served on that panel during his first term. Although he voted in favor of the resolution to use force in Iraq, he says he did so because he had faulty information and has expressed concern that the Bush administration seems to have no plan to win the war.

Hill is married to a middle-school math teacher and often weighs in on education issues, maintaining that schools would be safer if they were smaller. After the massacre at Colorado's Columbine High School in 1999, he penned legislation providing federal grants to local districts to help them accommodate fewer students in each school.

IOWA (1)

Bruce Braley, D

Election: Defeated Mike Whalen, R, to succeed Jim Nussle, R, who ran for governor
Home: Waterloo
Born: Oct. 30, 1957, Grinnell, Iowa
Religion: Presbyterian
Family: Wife, Carolyn Braley; three children
Education: Iowa State U., B.A. 1980; U. of Iowa, J.D. 1983
Career: Lawyer
Political Highlights: No previous office



Bruce Braley will advocate issues with the crispness of a trial lawyer — his profession before he embarked on his first bid for public office.

After spending 22 years of his life "fighting for people who don't have a voice," Braley said he will "stand up and speak out strongly on their behalf" as a member of Congress.

Braley hopes to concentrate heavily on health care issues. "Maintaining health insurance is the number one priority for Iowa employees," he said.

Iowa's 1st District includes a sizable population of senior citizens, and Braley wants to revise and simplify the 2003 Medicare prescription drug law to allow the federal government to negotiate lower drug prices and allow the reimportation of drugs from Canada.

Braley will be a steadfast ally of labor unions. He supports increasing the minimum wage to \$7.25 per hour and promises to refuse a congressional pay increase until the wage floor is raised.

Braley also advocates repeal of the recent income tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans, increased investment in renewable fuels such as ethanol and establishment of a universal pension that workers could maintain without penalty as they move between jobs.

Braley is interested in serving on the Education and the Workforce Committee — a fitting assignment for someone whose wife is a teacher and whose mother is a retired educator. The Judiciary panel also interests the longtime litigator.

New Members continued on page 49

IMPACT ON HOUSE COMMITTEES

Agriculture

Republicans

Robert W. Goodlatte, Va.
~~Richard W. Pombo, Calif.~~
 Terry Everett, Ala.
 Frank D. Lucas, Okla.
 Jerry Moran, Kan.
~~Bill Jenkins, Tenn.~~
~~Gil Gutknecht, Minn.~~
 Robin Hayes, N.C. *
 Timothy V. Johnson, Ill.
~~Tom Osborne, Neb.~~
 Mike Pence, Ind.
 Sam Graves, Mo.
 Jo Bonner, Ala.
 Mike D. Rogers, Ala.
 Steve King, Iowa
 Marilyn Musgrave, Colo.
 Randy Neugebauer, Texas
 Charles Boustany Jr., La.
~~Joe Schwarz, Mich.~~
 John R. "Randy" Kuhl Jr., N.Y.
 Virginia Foxx, N.C.
 K. Michael Conaway, Texas
 Jeff Fortenberry, Neb.
 Jean Schmidt, Ohio *
~~Mike Sodrel, Ind.~~

Democrats

Collin C. Peterson, Minn.
 Tim Holden, Pa.
 Mike McIntyre, N.C.
 Bob Etheridge, N.C.
 Joe Baca, Calif.
~~Ed Case, Hawaii~~
 Dennis Cardoza, Calif.
 David Scott, Ga.
 Jim Marshall, Ga. *
 Stephanie Herseeth, S.D.
 G.K. Butterfield, N.C.
 Henry Cuellar, Texas
 Charlie Melancon, La.
 Jim Costa, Calif.
 John Salazar, Colo.
 John Barrow, Ga. *
 Earl Pomeroy, N.D.
 Leonard L. Boswell, Iowa
 Rick Larsen, Wash.
 Lincoln Davis, Tenn.
 Ben Chandler, Ky.

Appropriations

Republicans

Jerry Lewis, Calif.
 C.W. Bill Young, Fla.
 Ralph Regula, Ohio
 Harold Rogers, Ky.
 Frank R. Wolf, Va.
~~Jim Kolbe, Ariz.~~
 James T. Walsh, N.Y.
~~Charles H. Taylor, N.C.~~
 David L. Hobson, Ohio
~~Ernest Istook, Okla.~~
 Henry Bonilla, Texas
 Joe Knollenberg, Mich.
 Jack Kingston, Ga.
 Rodney Frelinghuysen, N.J.
 Roger Wicker, Miss.
 Todd Tiahrt, Kan.
 Zach Wamp, Tenn.
 Tom Latham, Iowa
~~Anne M. Northup, Ky.~~

Robert B. Aderholt, Ala.
 Jo Ann Emerson, Mo.
 Kay Granger, Texas
 John E. Peterson, Pa.
 Virgil H. Goode Jr., Va.
 John T. Doolittle, Calif.
 Ray LaHood, Ill.
~~John E. Sweeney, N.Y.~~
~~Don Sherwood, Pa.~~
 Dave Weldon, Fla.
 Mike Simpson, Idaho
 John Culberson, Texas
 Mark Steven Kirk, Ill.
 Ander Crenshaw, Fla.
 Denny Rehberg, Mont.
 John Carter, Texas
 Rodney Alexander, La.
Vacancy

(cont., next column)

Democrats

David R. Obey, Wis.,
 John P. Murtha, Pa.
 Norm Dicks, Wash.
~~Martin Olav Sabo, Minn.~~
 Steny H. Hoyer, Md.
 Alan B. Mollohan, W.Va.
 Marcy Kaptur, Ohio
 Peter J. Visclosky, Ind.
 Nita M. Lowey, N.Y.
 Jose E. Serrano, N.Y.
 Rosa DeLauro, Conn.
 James P. Moran, Va.
 John W. Olver, Mass.
 Ed Pastor, Ariz.

David E. Price, N.C.
 Chet Edwards, Texas
 Robert E. "Bud" Cramer, Ala.
 Patrick J. Kennedy, R.I.
 James E. Clyburn, S.C.
 Maurice D. Hinchey, N.Y.
 Lucille Roybal-Allard, Calif.
 Sam Farr, Calif.
 Jesse L. Jackson Jr., Ill.
 Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, Mich.
 Allen Boyd, Fla.
 Chaka Fattah, Pa.
 Steven R. Rothman, N.J.
 Sanford D. Bishop Jr., Ga.
 Marion Berry, Ark.

Armed Services

Republicans

Duncan Hunter, Calif.
~~Curt Weldon, Pa.~~
~~Joel Hefley, Colo.~~
 H. James Saxton, N.J.
 John M. McHugh, N.Y.
 Terry Everett, Ala.
 Roscoe G. Bartlett, Md.
 William M. "Mac" Thornberry, Texas
~~John Hostettler, Ind.~~
 Walter B. Jones, N.C.
~~Jim Ryun, Kan.~~
~~Jim Gibbons, Nev.~~
 Robin Hayes, N.C. *
 Ken Calvert, Calif.
 Rob Simmons, Conn. *
 Jo Ann Davis, Va.
 Todd Akin, Mo.
 J. Randy Forbes, Va.
 Jeff Miller, Fla.
 Joe Wilson, S.C.
 Frank A. LoBiondo, N.J.
~~Jeb Bradley, N.H.~~
 Michael R. Turner, Ohio
 John Kline, Minn.
 Candice S. Miller, Mich.
 Mike D. Rogers, Ala.
 Trent Franks, Ariz.
 Bill Shuster, Pa.
 Thelma Drake, Va.
~~Joe Schwarz, Mich.~~
 Cathy McMorris, Wash.
 K. Michael Conaway, Texas
 Geoff Davis, Ky.
 Brian P. Bilbray, Calif.

Democrats

Ike Skelton, Mo.
 John M. Spratt Jr., S.C.
 Solomon P. Ortiz, Texas
~~Lane Evans, Ill.~~
 Gene Taylor, Miss.
 Neil Abercrombie, Hawaii
 Martin T. Meehan, Mass.
 Silvestre Reyes, Texas
 Vic Snyder, Ark.
 Adam Smith, Wash.
 Loretta Sanchez, Calif.
 Mike McIntyre, N.C.
 Ellen O. Tauscher, Calif.
 Robert A. Brady, Pa.
 Robert E. Andrews, N.J.
 Susan A. Davis, Calif.
 Jim Langevin, R.I.
 Steve Israel, N.Y.
 Rick Larsen, Wash.
 Jim Cooper, Tenn.
 Jim Marshall, Ga. *
 Kendrick B. Meek, Fla.
 Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam
 Tim Ryan, Ohio
 Mark Udall, Colo.
 G.K. Butterfield, N.C.
~~Cynthia A. McKinney, Ga.~~
 Dan Boren, Okla.

* At press time these members were in races too close to call.

Note: Current chairmen in bold.

IMPACT ON HOUSE COMMITTEES

Budget

Republicans

~~Jim Nussle, Iowa~~
~~Jim Ryan, Kan.~~
 Ander Crenshaw, Fla.
 Adam H. Putnam, Fla.
 Roger Wicker, Miss.
 Kenny Hulshof, Mo.
 Jo Bonner, Ala.
 Scott Garrett, N.J.
 J. Gresham Barrett, S.C.
 Thaddeus McCotter, Mich.
 Mario Diaz-Balart, Fla.
 Jeb Hensarling, Texas
 Dan Lungren, Calif.
 Pete Sessions, Texas
 Paul D. Ryan, Wis.
 Mike Simpson, Idaho
~~Jeb Bradley, N.H.~~
 Patrick T. McHenry, N.C.
 Connie Mack, Fla.
 K. Michael Conaway, Texas
~~Chris Chocola, Ind.~~
 John Campbell, Calif.

Democrats

John M. Spratt Jr., S.C.
 Dennis Moore, Kan.
 Richard E. Neal, Mass.
 Rosa DeLauro, Conn.
 Chet Edwards, Texas
~~Harold E. Ford Jr., Tenn.~~
 Lois Capps, Calif.
 Brian Baird, Wash.
 Jim Cooper, Tenn.
 Artur Davis, Ala.
 William J. Jefferson, La.
 Tom Allen, Maine
~~Ed Case, Hawaii~~
~~Cynthia A. McKinney, Ga.~~
 Henry Cuellar, Texas
 Allyson Y. Schwartz, Pa.
 Ron Kind, Wis.

Education and the Workforce

Republicans

Howard P. "Buck" McKeon, Calif.
 Tom Petri, Wis.
 Michael N. Castle, Del.
 Sam Johnson, Texas
 Mark Souder, Ind.
 Charlie Norwood, Ga.
 Vernon J. Ehlers, Mich.
 Judy Biggert, Ill.
 Todd R. Platts, Pa.
 Pat Tiberi, Ohio
 Ric Keller, Fla.
~~Tom Osborne, Neb.~~
 Joe Wilson, S.C.
 Jon Porter, Nev.
 John Kline, Minn.
 Marilyn Musgrave, Colo.
 Bob Inglis, S.C.
 Cathy McMorris, Wash.
 Kenny Marchant, Texas
 Tom Price, Ga.
 Luis Fortuno, P.R.
 Bobby Jindal, La.
 Charles Boustany Jr., La.
 Virginia Foxx, N.C.
 Thelma Drake, Va.
 John R. "Randy" Kuhl Jr., N.Y.
 Vacancy

Democrats

George Miller, Calif.
 Dale E. Kildee, Mich.
~~Major R. Owens, N.Y.~~
 Donald M. Payne, N.J.
 Robert E. Andrews, N.J.
 Robert C. Scott, Va.
 Lynn Woolsey, Calif.
 Ruben Hinojosa, Texas
 Carolyn McCarthy, N.Y.
 John F. Tierney, Mass.
 Ron Kind, Wis.
 Dennis J. Kucinich, Ohio
 David Wu, Ore.
 Rush D. Holt, N.J.
 Susan A. Davis, Calif.
 Betty McCollum, Minn.
 Danny K. Davis, Ill.
 Raul M. Grijalva, Ariz.
 Chris Van Hollen, Md.
 Tim Ryan, Ohio
 Timothy H. Bishop, N.Y.
 Vacancy

Energy and Commerce

Republicans

Joe L. Barton, Texas
 Ralph M. Hall, Texas
~~Michael Bilirakis, Fla.~~
 Fred Upton, Mich.
 Cliff Stearns, Fla.
 Paul E. Gillmor, Ohio
 Nathan Deal, Ga.
 Edward Whitfield, Ky.
 Charlie Norwood, Ga.
 Barbara Cubin, Wyo. *
 John Shimkus, Ill.
 Heather A. Wilson, N.M. *
 John Shadegg, Ariz.
 Charles W. "Chip" Pickering Jr., Miss.
 Vito J. Fossella, N.Y.
 Roy Blunt, Mo.
 Steve Buyer, Ind.
 George P. Radanovich, Calif.
~~Charles Bass, N.H.~~
 Joe Pitts, Pa.
 Mary Bono, Calif.
 Greg Walden, Ore.
 Lee Terry, Neb.
 Mike Ferguson, N.J.
 Mike Rogers, Mich.
~~C.L. "Dutch" Otter, Idaho~~
 Sue Myrick, N.C.
 John Sullivan, Okla.
 Tim Murphy, Pa.
 Michael C. Burgess, Texas
 Marsha Blackburn, Tenn.

Democrats

John D. Dingell, Mich.
 Henry A. Waxman, Calif.
 Edward J. Markey, Mass.
 Rick Boucher, Va.
 Edolphus Towns, N.Y.
 Frank Pallone Jr., N.J.
~~Sherrod Brown, Ohio~~
 Bart Gordon, Tenn.
 Bobby L. Rush, Ill.
 Anna G. Eshoo, Calif.
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 Eliot L. Engel, N.Y.
 Albert R. Wynn, Md.
 Gene Green, Texas
~~Ted Strickland, Ohio~~
 Diana DeGette, Colo.
 Lois Capps, Calif.
 Mike Doyle, Pa.
 Tom Allen, Maine
~~Jim Davis, Fla.~~
 Jan Schakowsky, Ill.
 Hilda L. Solis, Calif.
 Charlie Gonzalez, Texas
 Jay Inslee, Wash.
 Tammy Baldwin, Wis.
 Mike Ross, Ark.

Homeland Security

Republicans

Peter T. King, N.Y.
 Don Young, Alaska
 Lamar Smith, Texas
~~Curt Weldon, Pa.~~
 Christopher Shays, Conn.
 John Linder, Ga.
 Mark Souder, Ind.
 Thomas M. Davis III, Va.
 Dan Lungren, Calif.
~~Jim Gibbons, Nev.~~
 Rob Simmons, Conn. *
 Mike D. Rogers, Ala.
 Steve Pearce, N.M.
~~Katherine Harris, Fla.~~
 Bobby Jindal, La.
 Dave Reichert, Wash. *
 Michael McCaul, Texas
 Charlie Dent, Pa.
 Ginny Brown-Waite, Fla.

Democrats

Bennie Thompson, Miss.
 Loretta Sanchez, Calif.
 Edward J. Markey, Mass.
 Norm Dicks, Wash.
 Jane Harman, Calif.
 Peter A. DeFazio, Ore.
 Nita M. Lowey, N.Y.
 Eleanor Holmes Norton, D.C.
 Zoe Lofgren, Calif.
 Sheila Jackson-Lee, Texas
 Bill Pascrell Jr., N.J.
 Donna M.C. Christensen, Virgin Is.
 Bob Etheridge, N.C.
 Jim Langevin, R.I.
 Kendrick B. Meek, Fla.

* At press time these members were in races too close to call.

IMPACT ON HOUSE COMMITTEES

Financial Services

Republicans

~~Michael G. Oxley, Ohio~~
~~Jim Leach, Iowa~~
 Richard H. Baker, La.
 Deborah Pryce, Ohio *
 Spencer Bachus, Ala.
 Michael N. Castle, Del.
 Ed Royce, Calif.
 Frank D. Lucas, Okla.
~~Sue W. Kelly, N.Y.~~
 Ron Paul, Texas
 Paul E. Gillmor, Ohio
~~Jim Ryun, Kan.~~
 Steven C. LaTourette, Ohio
 Donald Manzullo, Ill.
 Walter B. Jones, N.C.
 Judy Biggert, Ill.
 Christopher Shays, Conn.
 Vito J. Fossella, N.Y.
 Gary G. Miller, Calif.
 Pat Tiberi, Ohio
~~Mark Kennedy, Minn.~~
 Tom Feeney, Fla.
 Jeb Hensarling, Texas
 Scott Garrett, N.J.
 Ginny Brown-Waite, Fla.
 J. Gresham Barrett, S.C.
~~Katherine Harris, Fla.~~
 Rick Renzi, Ariz.
 Jim Gerlach, Pa. *
 Steve Pearce, N.M.
 Randy Neugebauer, Texas
 Tom Price, Ga.
 Michael G. Fitzpatrick, Pa. *
 Geoff Davis, Ky.
 Patrick T. McHenry, N.C.
 John Campbell, Calif.
 Vacancy

Democrats

Barney Frank, Mass.
 Paul E. Kanjorski, Pa.
 Maxine Waters, Calif.
~~Bernard Sanders, Vt. (I)~~
 Carolyn B. Maloney, N.Y.
 Luis V. Gutierrez, Ill.
 Nydia M. Velazquez, N.Y.
 Melvin Watt, N.C.
 Gary L. Ackerman, N.Y.
 Darlene Hooley, Ore.
 Julia Carson, Ind.
 Brad Sherman, Calif.
 Gregory W. Meeks, N.Y.
 Barbara Lee, Calif.
 Dennis Moore, Kan.
 Michael E. Capuano, Mass.
~~Harold E. Ford Jr., Tenn.~~
 Ruben Hinojosa, Texas
 Joseph Crowley, N.Y.
 William Lacy Clay, Mo.
 Steve Israel, N.Y.
 Carolyn McCarthy, N.Y.
 Joe Baca, Calif.
 Jim Matheson, Utah
 Stephen F. Lynch, Mass.
 Brad Miller, N.C.
 David Scott, Ga.
 Artur Davis, Ala.
 Al Green, Texas
 Emanuel Cleaver II, Mo.
 Melissa Bean, Ill.
 Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, Fla.
 Gwen Moore, Wis.

House Administration

Republicans

Vernon J. Ehlers, Mich.
 John L. Mica, Fla.
 John T. Doolittle, Calif.
 Thomas M. Reynolds, N.Y.
 Candice S. Miller, Mich.
 Vacancy

Democrats

Juanita Millender-McDonald, Calif.
 Robert A. Brady, Pa.
 Zoe Lofgren, Calif.

Government Reform

Republicans

Thomas M. Davis III, Va.
 Christopher Shays, Conn.
 Dan Burton, Ind.
 Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Fla.
 John M. McHugh, N.Y.
 John L. Mica, Fla.
~~Gil Gutknecht, Minn.~~
 Mark Souder, Ind.
 Steven C. LaTourette, Ohio
 Todd R. Platts, Pa.
 Chris Cannon, Utah
 John J. "Jimmy" Duncan Jr., Tenn.
 Candice S. Miller, Mich.
 Michael R. Turner, Ohio
 Darrell Issa, Calif.
 Jon Porter, Nev.
 Kenny Marchant, Texas
 Lynn Westmoreland, Ga.
 Patrick T. McHenry, N.C.
 Charlie Dent, Pa.
 Virginia Foxx, N.C.
 Jean Schmidt, Ohio *
 Brian P. Bilbray, Calif.

Democrats

Henry A. Waxman, Calif.
 Tom Lantos, Calif.
~~Major R. Owens, N.Y.~~
 Edolphus Towns, N.Y.
 Paul E. Kanjorski, Pa.
~~Bernard Sanders, Vt. (I)~~
 Carolyn B. Maloney, N.Y.
 Elijah E. Cummings, Md.
 Dennis J. Kucinich, Ohio
 Danny K. Davis, Ill.
 William Lacy Clay, Mo.
 Diane Watson, Calif.
 Stephen F. Lynch, Mass.
 Chris Van Hollen, Md.
 Linda T. Sanchez, Calif.
 C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, Md.
 Brian Higgins, N.Y.
 Eleanor Holmes Norton, D.C.

International Relations

Republicans

~~Henry J. Hyde, Ill.~~
~~Jim Leach, Iowa~~
 Christopher H. Smith, N.J.
 Dan Burton, Ind.
 Elton Gallegly, Calif.
 Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Fla.
 Dana Rohrabacher, Calif.
 Ed Royce, Calif.
 Peter T. King, N.Y.
 Steve Chabot, Ohio
 Tom Tancredo, Colo.
 Ron Paul, Texas
 Darrell Issa, Calif.
 Jeff Flake, Ariz.
 Jo Ann Davis, Va.
~~Mark Green, Wis.~~
 Jerry Weller, Ill.
 Mike Pence, Ind.
 Thaddeus McCotter, Mich.
~~Katherine Harris, Fla.~~
 Joe Wilson, S.C.
 John Boozman, Ark.
 J. Gresham Barrett, S.C.
 Connie Mack, Fla.
 Jeff Fortenberry, Neb.
 Michael McCaul, Texas
 Ted Poe, Texas

Democrats

Tom Lantos, Calif.
 Howard L. Berman, Calif.
 Gary L. Ackerman, N.Y.
 Eni F.H. Faleomavaega, Am.Samoa
 Donald M. Payne, N.J.
~~Sherrod Brown, Ohio~~
 Brad Sherman, Calif.
 Robert Wexler, Fla.
 Eliot L. Engel, N.Y.
 Bill Delahunt, Mass.
 Gregory W. Meeks, N.Y.
 Barbara Lee, Calif.
 Joseph Crowley, N.Y.
 Earl Blumenauer, Ore.
 Shelley Berkley, Nev.
 Grace F. Napolitano, Calif.
 Adam B. Schiff, Calif.
 Diane Watson, Calif.
 Adam Smith, Wash.
 Betty McCollum, Minn.
 Ben Chandler, Ky.
 Dennis Cardoza, Calif.
 Russ Carnahan, Mo.

* At press time these members were in races too close to call.

Note: Current chairmen in bold.

IMPACT ON HOUSE COMMITTEES

Judiciary

Republicans

F. James Sensenbrenner Jr., Wis.
~~Henry J. Hyde, Ill.~~
 Howard Coble, N.C.
 Lamar Smith, Texas
 Elton Gallegly, Calif.
 Robert W. Goodlatte, Va.
 Steve Chabot, Ohio
 Dan Lungren, Calif.
~~Bill Jenkins, Tenn.~~
 Chris Cannon, Utah
 Spencer Bachus, Ala.
 Bob Inglis, S.C.
~~John Hostettler, Ind.~~
~~Mark Green, Wis.~~
 Ric Keller, Fla.
 Darrell Issa, Calif.
 Jeff Flake, Ariz.
 Mike Pence, Ind.
 J. Randy Forbes, Va.
 Steve King, Iowa
 Tom Feeney, Fla.
 Trent Franks, Ariz.
 Louie Gohmert, Texas

Democrats

John Conyers Jr., Mich.
 Howard L. Berman, Calif.
 Rick Boucher, Va.
 Jerrold Nadler, N.Y.
 Robert C. Scott, Va.
 Melvin Watt, N.C.
 Zoe Lofgren, Calif.
 Sheila Jackson-Lee, Texas
 Maxine Waters, Calif.
 Martin T. Meehan, Mass.
 Bill Delahunt, Mass.
 Robert Wexler, Fla.
 Anthony Weiner, N.Y.
 Adam B. Schiff, Calif.
 Linda T. Sanchez, Calif.
 Chris Van Hollen, Md.
 Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, Fla.

Resources

Republicans

~~Richard W. Pombo, Calif.~~
 Don Young, Alaska
 H. James Saxton, N.J.
 Elton Gallegly, Calif.
 John J. "Jimmy" Duncan Jr., Tenn.
 Wayne T. Gilchrest, Md.
 Ken Calvert, Calif.
 Barbara Cubin, Wyo. *
 George Radanovich, Calif.
 Walter B. Jones, N.C.
 Chris Cannon, Utah
 John E. Peterson, Pa.
~~Jim Gibbons, Nev.~~
 Greg Walden, Ore.
 Tom Tancredo, Colo.
~~J.D. Hayworth, Ariz.~~
 Jeff Flake, Ariz.
 Rick Renzi, Ariz.
 Steve Pearce, N.M.
 Henry E. Brown Jr., S.C.
 Thelma Drake, Va.
 Luis Fortuno, P.R.
 Cathy McMorris, Wash.
 Bobby Jindal, La.
 Louie Gohmert, Texas
 Marilyn Musgrave, Colo.
 Vacancy

Democrats

Nick J. Rahall II, W.Va.
 George Miller, Calif.
 Edward J. Markey, Mass.
 Dale E. Kildee, Mich.
 Peter A. DeFazio, Ore.
 Eni F.H. Faleomavaega, Am. Samoa
 Neil Abercrombie, Hawaii
 Solomon P. Ortiz, Texas
 Frank Pallone Jr., N.J.
 Donna M.C. Christensen, Virgin Is.
 Ron Kind, Wis.
 Jay Inslee, Wash.
 Grace F. Napolitano, Calif.
 Tom Udall, N.M.
 Mark Udall, Colo.
 Raul M. Grijalva, Ariz.
 Dennis Cardoza, Calif.
 Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam
 Stephanie Herseth, S.D.
 Jim Costa, Calif.
 Charlie Melancon, La.
 Dan Boren, Okla.

Rules

Republicans

David Dreier, Calif.
 Lincoln Diaz-Balart, Fla.
 Doc Hastings, Wash.
 Pete Sessions, Texas
 Adam H. Putnam, Fla.
 Shelley Moore Capito, W.Va.
 Tom Cole, Okla.
 Rob Bishop, Utah
 Phil Gingrey, Ga.

Democrats

Louise M. Slaughter, N.Y.
 Jim McGovern, Mass.
 Alcee L. Hastings, Fla.
 Doris Matsui, Calif.

Science

Republicans

~~Sherwood Boehlert, N.Y.~~
 Ralph M. Hall, Texas
 Lamar Smith, Texas
~~Curt Weldon, Pa.~~
 Dana Rohrabacher, Calif.
 Ken Calvert, Calif.
 Roscoe G. Bartlett, Md.
 Vernon J. Ehlers, Mich.
~~Gil Gutknecht, Minn.~~
 Frank D. Lucas, Okla.
 Judy Biggert, Ill.
 Wayne T. Gilchrest, Md.
 Todd Akin, Mo.
 Timothy V. Johnson, Ill.
 J. Randy Forbes, Va.
 Jo Bonner, Ala.
 Tom Feeney, Fla.
 Randy Neugebauer, Texas
 Bob Inglis, S.C.
 Dave Reichert, Wash. *
~~Mike Sodrel, Ind.~~
~~Joe Schwarz, Mich.~~
 Michael McCaul, Texas
 Mario Diaz-Balart, Fla.

Democrats

Bart Gordon, Tenn.
 Jerry F. Costello, Ill.
 Eddie Bernice Johnson, Texas
 Lynn Woolsey, Calif.
 Darlene Hooley, Ore.
 Mark Udall, Colo.
 David Wu, Ore.
 Michael M. Honda, Calif.
 Brad Miller, N.C.
 Lincoln Davis, Tenn.
 Daniel Lipinski, Ill.
 Sheila Jackson-Lee, Texas
 Brad Sherman, Calif.
 Brian Baird, Wash.
 Jim Matheson, Utah
 Jim Costa, Calif.
 Al Green, Texas
 Charlie Melancon, La.
 Dennis Moore, Kan.
 Doris Matsui, Calif.

Veterans Affairs

Republicans

Steve Buyer, Ind.
~~Michael Bilirakis, Fla.~~
 Terry Everett, Ala.
 Cliff Stearns, Fla.
 Dan Burton, Ind.
 Jerry Moran, Kan.
 Richard H. Baker, La.
 Henry E. Brown Jr., S.C.
 Jeff Miller, Fla.
 John Boozman, Ark.
~~Joe Bradley, N.H.~~
 Ginny Brown-Waite, Fla.
 Michael R. Turner, Ohio
 John Campbell, Calif.
 Brian P. Bilbray, Calif.
 Vacancy

Democrats

~~Lane Evans, Ill.~~
 Bob Filner, Calif.
 Luis V. Gutierrez, Ill.
 Corrine Brown, Fla.
 Vic Snyder, Ark.
 Michael H. Michaud, Maine
 Stephanie Herseth, S.D.
~~Ted Strickland, Ohio~~
 Darlene Hooley, Ore.
 Silvestre Reyes, Texas
 Shelley Berkley, Nev.
 Tom Udall, N.M.
 John Salazar, Colo.

* At press time these members were in races too close to call.

IMPACT ON HOUSE COMMITTEES

Small Business

Republicans

Donald Manzullo, Ill.
 Roscoe G. Bartlett, Md.
~~Sue W. Kelly, N.Y.~~
 Steve Chabot, Ohio
 Sam Graves, Mo.
 Todd Akin, Mo.
 Bill Shuster, Pa.
 Marilyn Musgrave, Colo.
~~Jeb Bradley, N.H.~~
 Steve King, Iowa
 Thaddeus McCotter, Mich.
 Ric Keller, Fla.
 Ted Poe, Texas
~~Mike Sodrel, Ind.~~
 Jeff Fortenberry, Neb.
 Michael G. Fitzpatrick, Pa. *
 Lynn Westmoreland, Ga.
 Louie Gohmert, Texas

Democrats

Nydia M. Velazquez, N.Y.
 Juanita Millender-McDonald, Calif.
 Tom Udall, N.M.
 Daniel Lipinski, Ill.
 Eni F.H. Faleomavaega, Am. Samoa
 Donna M.C. Christensen, Virgin Is.
 Danny K. Davis, Ill.
~~Ed Case, Hawaii~~
 Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Guam
 Raul M. Grijalva, Ariz.
 Michael H. Michaud, Maine
 Linda T. Sanchez, Calif.
 John Barrow, Ga. *
 Melissa Bean, Ill.
 Gwen Moore, Wis.

Standards of Official Conduct

Republicans

Doc Hastings, Wash.
 Judy Biggert, Ill.
 Lamar Smith, Texas
~~Melissa A. Hart, Pa.~~
 Tom Cole, Okla.

Democrats

Howard L. Berman, Calif.
 Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Ohio
 Gene Green, Texas
 Lucille Roybal-Allard, Calif.
 Mike Doyle, Pa.

Ways and Means

Republicans

Bill Thomas, Calif.
~~E. Clay Shaw Jr., Fla.~~
~~Nancy L. Johnson, Conn.~~
 Wally Herger, Calif.
 Jim McCrery, La.
 Dave Camp, Mich.
 Jim Ramstad, Minn.
~~Jim Nussle, Iowa~~
 Sam Johnson, Texas
 Phil English, Pa.
~~J.D. Hayworth, Ariz.~~
 Jerry Weller, Ill.
 Kenny Hulshof, Mo.
 Ron Lewis, Ky.
 Kevin Brady, Texas
 Thomas M. Reynolds, N.Y.
 Paul D. Ryan, Wis.
 Eric Cantor, Va.
 John Linder, Ga.
~~Bob Beauprez, Colo.~~
~~Melissa A. Hart, Pa.~~
~~Chris Chocola, Ind.~~
 Devin Nunes, Calif.
 Vacancy

Democrats

Charles B. Rangel, N.Y.
 Pete Stark, Calif.
 Sander M. Levin, Mich.
~~Benjamin L. Cardin, Md.~~
 Jim McDermott, Wash.
 John Lewis, Ga.
 Richard E. Neal, Mass.
 Michael R. McNulty, N.Y.
 John Tanner, Tenn.
 Xavier Becerra, Calif.
 Lloyd Doggett, Texas
 Earl Pomeroy, N.D.
 Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Ohio
 Mike Thompson, Calif.
 John B. Larson, Conn.
 Rahm Emanuel, Ill.
 Vacancy

Select Intelligence

Republicans

Peter Hoekstra, Mich.
 Ray LaHood, Ill.
 Terry Everett, Ala.
 Elton Gallegly, Calif.
 Heather A. Wilson, N.M. *
 Jo Ann Davis, Va.
 William M. "Mac" Thornberry, Texas
 John M. McHugh, N.Y.
 Todd Tiahrt, Kan.
 Mike Rogers, Mich.
 Rick Renzi, Ariz.
 Darrell Issa, Calif.

Democrats

Jane Harman, Calif.
 Alcee L. Hastings, Fla.
 Silvestre Reyes, Texas
 Leonard L. Boswell, Iowa
 Robert E. "Bud" Cramer, Ala.
 Anna G. Eshoo, Calif.
 Rush D. Holt, N.J.
 C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, Md.
 John F. Tierney, Mass.

Transportation and Infrastructure

Republicans

Don Young, Alaska
 Tom Petri, Wis.
~~Sherwood Boehlert, N.Y.~~
 Howard Coble, N.C.
 John J. "Jimmy" Duncan Jr., Tenn.
 Wayne T. Gilchrest, Md.
 John L. Mica, Fla.
 Peter Hoekstra, Mich.
 Vernon J. Ehlers, Mich.
 Spencer Bachus, Ala.
 Steven C. LaTourette, Ohio
~~Sue W. Kelly, N.Y.~~
 Richard H. Baker, La.
 Frank A. LoBiondo, N.J.
 Jerry Moran, Kan.
 Gary G. Miller, Calif.
 Robin Hayes, N.C. *
 Rob Simmons, Conn. *
 Henry E. Brown Jr., S.C.
 Timothy V. Johnson, Ill.
 Todd R. Platts, Pa.
 Sam Graves, Mo.
~~Mark Kennedy, Minn.~~
 Bill Shuster, Pa.
 John Boozman, Ark.
 Jim Gerlach, Pa. *
 Mario Diaz-Balart, Fla.
 Jon Porter, Nev.
~~Tom Osborne, Neb.~~
 Kenny Marchant, Texas
~~Mike Sodrel, Ind.~~
 Charlie Dent, Pa.
 Ted Poe, Texas
 Dave Reichert, Wash. *
 Connie Mack, Fla.
 John R. "Randy" Kuhl Jr., N.Y.
 Luis Fortuno, P.R.
 Lynn Westmoreland, Ga.
 Charles Boustany Jr., La.
 Jean Schmidt, Ohio *
 Vacancy

Democrats

James L. Oberstar, Minn.
 Nick J. Rahall II, W.Va.
 Peter A. DeFazio, Ore.
 Jerry F. Costello, Ill.
 Eleanor Holmes Norton, D.C.
 Jerrold Nadler, N.Y.
 Corrine Brown, Fla.
 Bob Filner, Calif.
 Eddie Bernice Johnson, Texas
 Gene Taylor, Miss.
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 Elijah E. Cummings, Md.
 Earl Blumenauer, Ore.
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 Bill Pascrell Jr., N.J.
 Leonard L. Boswell, Iowa
 Tim Holden, Pa.
 Brian Baird, Wash.
 Shelley Berkley, Nev.
 Jim Matheson, Utah
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 Rick Larsen, Wash.
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 Anthony Weiner, N.Y.
 Julia Carson, Ind.
 Timothy H. Bishop, N.Y.
 Michael H. Michaud, Maine
 Lincoln Davis, Tenn.
 Ben Chandler, Ky.
 Brian Higgins, N.Y.
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 John Barrow, Ga. *

Note: Current chairmen in bold

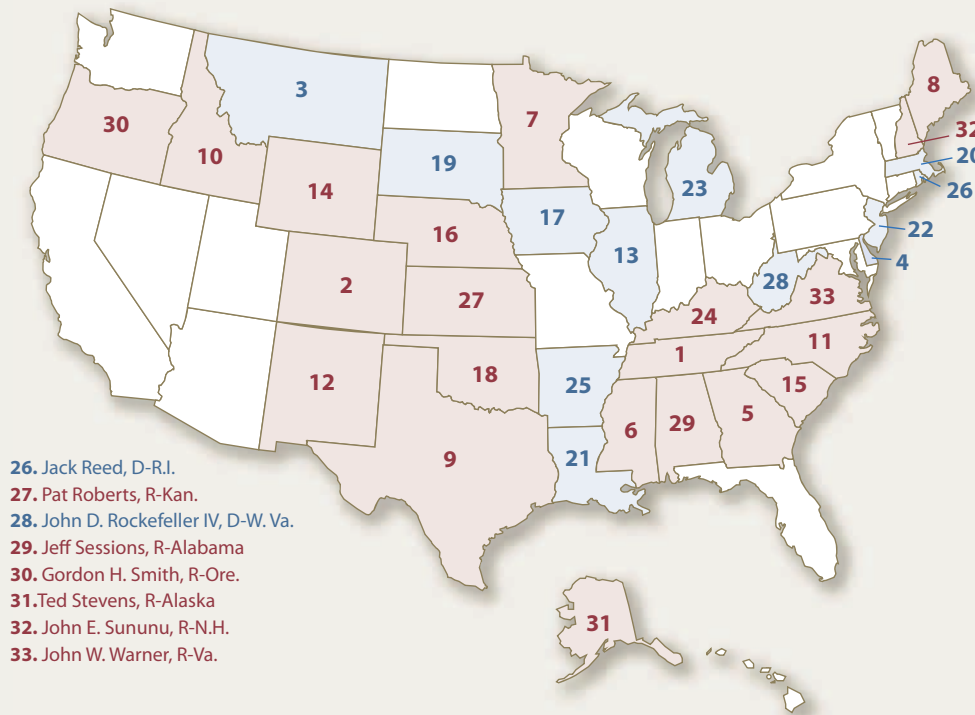
* At press time these members were in races too close to call.

Senate Seats Up in 2008

In contrast to this year, Democrats will begin the 2008 Senate election cycle with an important advantage: They will have only a dozen seats to defend, while Republicans will have 21 at stake. But two of the

Democrats up in 2008 are currently eyeing presidential bids: Joseph R. Biden Jr. of Delaware and John Kerry of Massachusetts, the 2004 nominee. They may have to choose which office to seek.

1. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn.
2. Wayne Allard, R-Colo.
3. Max Baucus, D-Mont.
4. Joseph R. Biden Jr., D-Del.
5. Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga.
6. Thad Cochran, R-Miss.
7. Norm Coleman, R-Minn.
8. Susan Collins, R-Maine
9. John Cornyn, R-Texas
10. Larry E. Craig, R-Idaho
11. Elizabeth Dole, R-N.C.
12. Pete V. Domenici, R-N.M.
13. Richard J. Durbin, D-Ill.
14. Michael B. Enzi, R-Wyo.
15. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.
16. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb.
17. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa
18. James M. Inhofe, R-Okla.
19. Tim Johnson, D-S.D.
20. John Kerry, D-Mass.
21. Mary L. Landrieu, D-La.
22. Frank R. Lautenberg, D-N.J.
23. Carl Levin, D-Mich.
24. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.
25. Mark Pryor, D-Ark.



26. Jack Reed, D-R.I.
27. Pat Roberts, R-Kan.
28. John D. Rockefeller IV, D-W. Va.
29. Jeff Sessions, R-Alabama
30. Gordon H. Smith, R-Ore.
31. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska
32. John E. Sununu, R-N.H.
33. John W. Warner, R-Va.

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IMPACT ON SENATE COMMITTEES

Agriculture

Republicans

Saxby Chambliss, Ga.
 Richard G. Lugar, Ind.
 Thad Cochran, Miss.
 Mitch McConnell, Ky.
 Pat Roberts, Kan.
~~Jim Talent, Mo.~~
 Craig Thomas, Wyo.
~~Rick Santorum, Pa.~~
 Norm Coleman, Minn.
 Michael D. Crapo, Idaho
 Charles E. Grassley, Iowa

Democrats

Tom Harkin, Iowa
 Patrick J. Leahy, Vt.
 Kent Conrad, N.D.
 Max Baucus, Mont.
 Blanche Lincoln, Ark.
 Debbie Stabenow, Mich.
 Ben Nelson, Neb.
~~Mark Dayton, Minn.~~
 Ken Salazar, Colo.

Appropriations

Republicans

Thad Cochran, Miss.
 Ted Stevens, Alaska
 Arlen Specter, Pa.
 Pete V. Domenici, N.M.
 Christopher S. Bond, Mo.
 Mitch McConnell, Ky.
 Conrad Burns, Mont. *
 Richard C. Shelby, Ala.
 Judd Gregg, N.H.
 Robert F. Bennett, Utah
 Larry E. Craig, Idaho
 Kay Bailey Hutchison, Texas
~~Mike DeWine, Ohio~~
 Sam Brownback, Kan.
 Wayne Allard, Colo.

Democrats

Robert C. Byrd, W.Va.
 Daniel K. Inouye, Hawaii
 Patrick J. Leahy, Vt.
 Tom Harkin, Iowa
 Barbara A. Mikulski, Md.
 Harry Reid, Nev.
 Herb Kohl, Wis.
 Patty Murray, Wash.
 Byron L. Dorgan, N.D.
 Dianne Feinstein, Calif.
 Richard J. Durbin, Ill.
 Tim Johnson, S.D.
 Mary L. Landrieu, La.

Armed Services

Republicans

John W. Warner, Va.
 John McCain, Ariz.
 James M. Inhofe, Okla.
 Pat Roberts, Kan.
 Jeff Sessions, Ala.
 Susan Collins, Maine
 John Ensign, Nev.
~~Jim Talent, Mo.~~
 Saxby Chambliss, Ga.
 Lindsey Graham, S.C.
 Elizabeth Dole, N.C.
 John Cornyn, Texas
 John Thune, S.D.

Democrats

Carl Levin, Mich.
 Edward M. Kennedy, Mass.
 Robert C. Byrd, W.Va.
 Joseph I. Lieberman, Conn.
 Jack Reed, R.I.
 Daniel K. Akaka, Hawaii
 Bill Nelson, Fla.
 Ben Nelson, Neb.
~~Mark Dayton, Minn.~~
 Evan Bayh, Ind.
 Hillary Rodham Clinton, N.Y.

Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs

Republicans

Richard C. Shelby, R-Ala.
 Robert F. Bennett, Utah
 Wayne Allard, Colo.
 Michael B. Enzi, Wyo.
 Chuck Hagel, Neb.
~~Rick Santorum, Pa.~~
 Jim Bunning, Ky.
 Michael D. Crapo, Idaho
 John E. Sununu, N.H.
 Elizabeth Dole, N.C.
 Mel Martinez, Fla.

Democrats

~~Paul S. Sarbanes, Md.~~
 Christopher J. Dodd, Conn.
 Tim Johnson, S.D.
 Jack Reed, R.I.
 Charles E. Schumer, N.Y.
 Evan Bayh, Ind.
 Thomas R. Carper, Del.
 Debbie Stabenow, Mich.
 Robert Menendez, N.J.

Budget

Republicans

Judd Gregg, R-N.H.
 Pete V. Domenici, N.M.
 Charles E. Grassley, Iowa
 Wayne Allard, Colo.
 Michael B. Enzi, Wyo.
 Jeff Sessions, Ala.
 Jim Bunning, Ky.
 Michael D. Crapo, Idaho
 John Ensign, Nev.
 John Cornyn, Texas
 Lamar Alexander, Tenn.
 Lindsey Graham, S.C.

Democrats

Kent Conrad, N.D.
~~Paul S. Sarbanes, Md.~~
 Patty Murray, Wash.
 Ron Wyden, Ore.
 Russ Feingold, Wis.
 Tim Johnson, S.D.
 Robert C. Byrd, W.Va.
 Bill Nelson, Fla.
 Debbie Stabenow, Mich.
 Robert Menendez, N.J.

Commerce, Science and Transportation

Republicans

Ted Stevens, R-Alaska
 John McCain, Ariz.
 Conrad Burns, Mont. *
 Trent Lott, Miss.
 Kay Bailey Hutchison, Texas
 Olympia J. Snowe, Maine
 Gordon H. Smith, Ore.
 John Ensign, Nev.
 George Allen, Va. *
 John E. Sununu, N.H.
 Jim DeMint, S.C.
 David Vitter, La.

Democrats

Daniel K. Inouye, Hawaii
 John D. Rockefeller IV, W.Va.
 John Kerry, Mass.
 Byron L. Dorgan, N.D.
 Barbara Boxer, Calif.
 Bill Nelson, Fla.
 Maria Cantwell, Wash.
 Frank R. Lautenberg, N.J.
 Ben Nelson, Neb.
 Mark Pryor, Ark.

* At press time these members were in races too close to call.

Note: Current chairmen in bold.

IMPACT ON SENATE COMMITTEES

Energy and Natural Resources

Republicans

Pete V. Domenici, N.M.
 Larry E. Craig, Idaho
 Craig Thomas, Wyo.
 Lamar Alexander, Tenn.
 Lisa Murkowski, Alaska
 Richard M. Burr, N.C.
 Mel Martinez, Fla.
~~Jim Talent, Mo.~~
 Conrad Burns, Mont. *
 George Allen, Va. *
 Gordon H. Smith, Ore.
 Jim Bunning, Ky.

Democrats

Jeff Bingaman, N.M.
 Daniel K. Akaka, Hawaii
 Byron L. Dorgan, N.D.
 Ron Wyden, Ore.
 Tim Johnson, S.D.
 Mary L. Landrieu, La.
 Dianne Feinstein, Calif.
 Maria Cantwell, Wash.
 Ken Salazar, Colo.
 Robert Menendez, N.J.

Environment and Public Works

Republicans

James M. Inhofe, Okla.
 John W. Warner, Va.
 Christopher S. Bond, Mo.
 George V. Voinovich, Ohio
~~Lincoln Chafee, R.I.~~
 Lisa Murkowski, Alaska
 John Thune, S.D.
 Jim DeMint, S.C.
 Johnny Isakson, Ga.
 David Vitter, La.

Democrats

~~James M. Jeffords, Vt. (I)~~
 Max Baucus, Mont.
 Joseph I. Lieberman, Conn.
 Barbara Boxer, Calif.
 Thomas R. Carper, Del.
 Hillary Rodham Clinton, N.Y.
 Frank R. Lautenberg, N.J.
 Barack Obama, Ill.

Select Ethics

Republicans

George V. Voinovich, Ohio
 Pat Roberts, Kan.
 Craig Thomas, Wyo.

Democrats

Tim Johnson, S.D.
 Mark Pryor, Ark.
 Ken Salazar, Colo.

Finance

Republicans

Charles E. Grassley, Iowa
 Orrin G. Hatch, Utah
 Trent Lott, Miss.
 Olympia J. Snowe, Maine
 Jon Kyl, Ariz.
 Craig Thomas, Wyo.
~~Rick Santorum, Pa.~~
~~Bill Frist, Tenn.~~
 Gordon H. Smith, Ore.
 Jim Bunning, Ky.
 Michael D. Crapo, Idaho

Democrats

Max Baucus, Mont.
 John D. Rockefeller IV, W.Va.
 Kent Conrad, N.D.
~~James M. Jeffords, Vt. (I)~~
 Jeff Bingaman, N.M.
 John Kerry, Mass.
 Blanche Lincoln, Ark.
 Ron Wyden, Ore.
 Charles E. Schumer, N.Y.

* At press time these members were in races too close to call.

Foreign Relations

Republicans

Richard G. Lugar, Ind.
 Chuck Hagel, Neb.
~~Lincoln Chafee, R.I.~~
 George Allen, Va. *
 Norm Coleman, Minn.
 George V. Voinovich, Ohio
 Lamar Alexander, Tenn.
 John E. Sununu, N.H.
 Lisa Murkowski, Alaska
 Mel Martinez, Fla.

Democrats

Joseph R. Biden Jr., Del.
~~Paul S. Sarbanes, Md.~~
 Christopher J. Dodd, Conn.
 John Kerry, Mass.
 Russ Feingold, Wis.
 Barbara Boxer, Calif.
 Bill Nelson, Fla.
 Barack Obama, Ill.

Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

Republicans

Michael B. Enzi, Wyo.
 Judd Gregg, N.H.
~~Bill Frist, Tenn.~~
 Lamar Alexander, Tenn.
 Richard M. Burr, N.C.
 Johnny Isakson, Ga.
~~Mike DeWine, Ohio~~
 John Ensign, Nev.
 Orrin G. Hatch, Utah
 Jeff Sessions, Ala.
 Pat Roberts, Kan.

Democrats

Edward M. Kennedy, Mass.
 Christopher J. Dodd, Conn.
 Tom Harkin, Iowa
 Barbara A. Mikulski, Md.
~~James M. Jeffords, Vt. (I)~~
 Jeff Bingaman, N.M.
 Patty Murray, Wash.
 Jack Reed, R.I.
 Hillary Rodham Clinton, N.Y.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Republicans

Susan Collins, Maine
 Ted Stevens, Alaska
 George V. Voinovich, Ohio
 Norm Coleman, Minn.
 Tom Coburn, Okla.
~~Lincoln Chafee, R.I.~~
 Robert F. Bennett, Utah
 Pete V. Domenici, N.M.
 John W. Warner, Va.

Democrats

Joseph I. Lieberman, Conn.
 Carl Levin, Mich.
 Daniel K. Akaka, Hawaii
 Thomas R. Carper, Del.
~~Mark Dayton, Minn.~~
 Frank R. Lautenberg, N.J.
 Mark Pryor, Ark.

Select Intelligence

Republicans

Pat Roberts, Kan.
 Orrin G. Hatch, Utah
~~Mike DeWine, Ohio~~
 Christopher S. Bond, Mo.
 Trent Lott, Miss.
 Olympia J. Snowe, Maine
 Chuck Hagel, Neb.
 Saxby Chambliss, Ga.

Democrats

John D. Rockefeller IV, W.Va.
 Carl Levin, Mich.
 Dianne Feinstein, Calif.
 Ron Wyden, Ore.
 Evan Bayh, Ind.
 Barbara A. Mikulski, Md.
 Russ Feingold, Wis.

IMPACT ON SENATE COMMITTEES

Indian Affairs

Republicans

John McCain, Ariz.
 Pete V. Domenici, N.M.
 Craig Thomas, Wyo.
 Gordon H. Smith, Ore.
 Lisa Murkowski, Alaska
 Michael D. Crapo, Idaho
 Richard M. Burr, N.C.
 Tom Coburn, Okla.

Democrats

Byron L. Dorgan, N.D.
 Daniel K. Inouye, Hawaii
 Kent Conrad, N.D.
 Daniel K. Akaka, Hawaii
 Tim Johnson, S.D.
 Maria Cantwell, Wash.

Judiciary

Republicans

Arlen Specter, Pa.
 Orrin G. Hatch, Utah
 Charles E. Grassley, Iowa
 Jon Kyl, Ariz.
~~Mike DeWine, Ohio~~
 Jeff Sessions, Ala.
 Lindsey Graham, S.C.
 John Cornyn, Texas
 Sam Brownback, Kan.
 Tom Coburn, Okla.

Democrats

Patrick J. Leahy, Vt.
 Edward M. Kennedy, Mass.
 Joseph R. Biden Jr., Del.
 Herb Kohl, Wis.
 Dianne Feinstein, Calif.
 Russ Feingold, Wis.
 Charles E. Schumer, N.Y.
 Richard J. Durbin, Ill.

Rules and Administration

Republicans

Trent Lott, Miss.
 Ted Stevens, Alaska
 Mitch McConnell, Ky.
 Thad Cochran, Miss.
~~Rick Santorum, Pa.~~
 Kay Bailey Hutchison, Texas
~~Bill Frist, Tenn.~~
 Saxby Chambliss, Ga.
 Robert F. Bennett, Utah
 Chuck Hagel, Neb.

Democrats

Christopher J. Dodd, Conn.
 Robert C. Byrd, W.Va.
 Daniel K. Inouye, Hawaii
 Dianne Feinstein, Calif.
 Charles E. Schumer, N.Y.
~~Mark Dayton, Minn.~~
 Richard J. Durbin, Ill.
 Ben Nelson, Neb.

Small Business

Republicans

Olympia J. Snowe, Maine
 Christopher S. Bond, Mo.
 Conrad Burns, Mont. *
 George Allen, Va. *
 Norm Coleman, Minn.
 John Thune, S.D.
 Johnny Isakson, Ga.
 David Vitter, La.
 Michael B. Enzi, Wyo.
 John Cornyn, Texas

Democrats

John Kerry, Mass.
 Carl Levin, Mich.
 Tom Harkin, Iowa
 Joseph I. Lieberman, Conn.
 Mary L. Landrieu, La.
 Maria Cantwell, Wash.
 Evan Bayh, Ind.
 Mark Pryor, Ark.

Special Aging

Republicans

Gordon H. Smith, Ore.
 Richard C. Shelby, Ala.
 Susan Collins, Maine
~~Jim Talent, Mo.~~
 Elizabeth Dole, N.C.
 Mel Martinez, Fla.
 Larry E. Craig, Idaho
~~Rick Santorum, Pa.~~
 Conrad Burns, Mont. *
 Lamar Alexander, Tenn.
 Jim DeMint, S.C.

Democrats

Herb Kohl, Wis.
~~James M. Jeffords, Vt. (†)~~
 Ron Wyden, Ore.
 Blanche Lincoln, Ark.
 Evan Bayh, Ind.
 Thomas R. Carper, Del.
 Bill Nelson, Fla.
 Hillary Rodham Clinton, N.Y.
 Ken Salazar, Colo.

Veterans' Affairs

Republicans

Larry E. Craig, Idaho
 Arlen Specter, Pa.
 Kay Bailey Hutchison, Texas
 Lindsey Graham, S.C.
 Richard M. Burr, N.C.
 John Ensign, Nev.
 John Thune, S.D.
 Johnny Isakson, Ga.

Democrats

Daniel K. Akaka, Hawaii
 John D. Rockefeller IV, W.Va.
~~James M. Jeffords, Vt. (†)~~
 Patty Murray, Wash.
 Barack Obama, Ill.
 Ken Salazar, Colo.

* At press time these members were in races too close to call.

Italics — new member

Leading candidate is listed first when race was too close to call as of press time

STATE DELEGATIONS IN THE 110TH CONGRESS

Alabama

Senate

Richard C. Shelby, R
Jeff Sessions, R

House

1 Jo Bonner, R
2 Terry Everett, R
3 Mike D. Rogers, R
4 Robert B. Aderholt, R
5 Robert E. "Bud" Cramer, D
6 Spencer Bachus, R
7 Artur Davis, D

14 Anna G. Eshoo, D
15 Michael M. Honda, D
16 Zoe Lofgren, D
17 Sam Farr, D
18 Dennis Cardoza, D
19 George Radanovich, R
20 Jim Costa, D
21 Devin Nunes, R
22 *Kevin McCarthy, R*
23 Lois Capps, D
24 Elton Gallegly, R
25 Howard P. "Buck" McKeon, R
26 David Dreier, R
27 Brad Sherman, D
28 Howard L. Berman, D
29 Adam B. Schiff, D
30 Henry A. Waxman, D
31 Xavier Becerra, D
32 Hilda L. Solis, D
33 Diane Watson, D
34 Lucille Roybal-Allard, D
35 Maxine Waters, D
36 Jane Harman, D
37 Juanita Millender-McDonald, D
38 Grace F. Napolitano, D
39 Linda T. Sánchez, D
40 Ed Royce, R
41 Jerry Lewis, R
42 Gary G. Miller, R
43 Joe Baca, D
44 Ken Calvert, R
45 Mary Bono, R
46 Dana Rohrabacher, R
47 Loretta Sanchez, D
48 John Campbell, R
49 Darrell Issa, R
50 Brian P. Bilbray, R
51 Bob Filner, D
52 Duncan Hunter, R
53 Susan A. Davis, D

Alaska

Senate

Ted Stevens, R
Lisa Murkowski, R

House

AL Don Young, R

Arizona

Senate

John McCain, R
Jon Kyl, R

House

1 Rick Renzi, R
2 Trent Franks, R
3 John Shadegg, R
4 Ed Pastor, D
5 *Harry E. Mitchell, D*
6 Jeff Flake, R
7 Raúl M. Grijalva, D
8 *Gabrielle Giffords, D*

Arkansas

Senate

Blanche Lincoln, D
Mark Pryor, D

House

1 Marion Berry, D
2 Vic Snyder, D
3 John Boozman, R
4 Mike Ross, D

California

Senate

Dianne Feinstein, D
Barbara Boxer, D

House

1 Mike Thompson, D
2 Wally Herger, R
3 Dan Lungren, R
4 John T. Doolittle, R
5 Doris Matsui, D
6 Lynn Woolsey, D
7 George Miller, D
8 Nancy Pelosi, D
9 Barbara Lee, D
10 Ellen O. Tauscher, D
11 *Jerry McNerney, D*
12 Tom Lantos, D
13 Pete Stark, D

Colorado

Senate

Wayne Allard, R
Ken Salazar, D

House

1 Diana DeGette, D
2 Mark Udall, D
3 John Salazar, D
4 Marilyn Musgrave, R
5 *Doug Lamborn, R*
6 Tom Tancredo, R
7 *Ed Perlmutter, D*

Connecticut

Senate

Christopher J. Dodd, D
Joseph I. Lieberman, D

House

1 John B. Larson, D
2 *Joe Courtney, D* or Rob Simmons, R
3 Rosa DeLauro, D
4 Christopher Shays, R
5 *Christopher S. Murphy, D*

Delaware

Senate

Joseph R. Biden Jr., D
Thomas R. Carper, D

House

AL Michael N. Castle, R

Florida

Senate

Bill Nelson, D
Mel Martinez, R

House

1 Jeff Miller, R
2 Allen Boyd, D
3 Corrine Brown, D
4 Ander Crenshaw, R
5 Ginny Brown-Waite, R
6 Cliff Stearns, R
7 John L. Mica, R
8 Ric Keller, R
9 *Gus Bilirakis, R*
10 C.W. Bill Young, R
11 *Kathy Castor, D*
12 Adam H. Putnam, R
13 *Vern Buchanan, R* or *Christine Jennings, D*
14 Connie Mack, R
15 Dave Weldon, R
16 *Tim Mahoney, D*
17 Kendrick B. Meek, D
18 Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R
19 Robert Wexler, D
20 Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, D
21 Lincoln Diaz-Balart, R
22 *Ron Klein, D*
23 Alcee L. Hastings, D
24 Tom Feeney, R
25 Mario Diaz-Balart, R

Georgia

Senate

Saxby Chambliss, R
Johnny Isakson, R

House

1 Jack Kingston, R
2 Sanford D. Bishop Jr., D
3 Lynn Westmoreland, R
4 *Hank Johnson, D*
5 John Lewis, D
6 Tom Price, R
7 John Linder, R
8 Jim Marshall, D or *Mac Collins, R*
9 Nathan Deal, R
10 Charlie Norwood, R
11 Phil Gingrey, R
12 John Barrow, D or *Max Burns, R*
13 David Scott, D

Hawaii

Senate

Daniel K. Inouye, D
Daniel K. Akaka, D

House

1 Neil Abercrombie, D
2 *Mazie Hirono, D*

Idaho

Senate

Larry E. Craig, R
Michael D. Crapo, R

House

1 *Bill Sali, R*
2 Mike Simpson, R

Illinois

Senate

Richard J. Durbin, D
Barack Obama, D

House

1 Bobby L. Rush, D
2 Jesse L. Jackson Jr., D
3 Daniel Lipinski, D
4 Luis V. Gutierrez, D
5 Rahm Emanuel, D
6 *Peter Roskam, R*
7 Danny K. Davis, D
8 Melissa Bean, D
9 Jan Schakowsky, D
10 Mark Steven Kirk, R
11 Jerry Weller, R
12 Jerry F. Costello, D
13 Judy Biggert, R
14 J. Dennis Hastert, R
15 Timothy V. Johnson, R
16 Donald Manzullo, R
17 *Phil Hare, D*
18 Ray LaHood, R
19 John Shimkus, R

Indiana

Senate

Richard G. Lugar, R
Evan Bayh, D

House

1 Peter J. Visclosky, D
2 *Joe Donnelly, D*
3 Mark Souder, R
4 Steve Buyer, R
5 Dan Burton, R
6 Mike Pence, R
7 Julia Carson, D
8 *Brad Ellsworth, D*
9 *Baron P. Hill, D*

Iowa

Senate

Charles E. Grassley, R
Tom Harkin, D

House

1 *Bruce Braley, D*
2 *Dave Loebsack, D*
3 Leonard L. Boswell, D
4 Tom Latham, R
5 Steve King, R

Kansas

Senate

Sam Brownback, R
Pat Roberts, R

House

- 1 Jerry Moran, R
- 2 *Nancy Boyda, D*
- 3 Dennis Moore, D
- 4 Todd Tiahrt, R

Kentucky

Senate

Mitch McConnell, R
Jim Bunning, R

House

- 1 Edward Whitfield, R
- 2 Ron Lewis, R
- 3 *John Yarmuth, D*
- 4 Geoff Davis, R
- 5 Harold Rogers, R
- 6 Ben Chandler, D

Louisiana

Senate

Mary L. Landrieu, D
David Vitter, R

House

- 1 Bobby Jindal, R
- 2 Dec. 9 runoff
- 3 Charlie Melancon, D
- 4 Jim McCrery, R
- 5 Rodney Alexander, R
- 6 Richard H. Baker, R
- 7 Charles Boustany Jr., R

Maine

Senate

Olympia J. Snowe, R
Susan Collins, R

House

- 1 Tom Allen, D
- 2 Michael H. Michaud, D

Maryland

Senate

Barbara A. Mikulski, D
Benjamin L. Cardin, D

House

- 1 Wayne T. Gilchrest, R
- 2 C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, D
- 3 *John Sarbanes, D*
- 4 Albert R. Wynn, D
- 5 Steny H. Hoyer, D
- 6 Roscoe G. Bartlett, R
- 7 Elijah E. Cummings, D
- 8 Chris Van Hollen, D

Massachusetts

Senate

Edward M. Kennedy, D
John Kerry, D

House

- 1 John W. Olver, D
- 2 Richard E. Neal, D
- 3 Jim McGovern, D
- 4 Barney Frank, D
- 5 Martin T. Meehan, D
- 6 John F. Tierney, D
- 7 Edward J. Markey, D
- 8 Michael E. Capuano, D
- 9 Stephen F. Lynch, D
- 10 Bill Delahunt, D

Michigan

Senate

Carl Levin, D
Debbie Stabenow, D

House

- 1 Bart Stupak, D
- 2 Peter Hoekstra, R
- 3 Vernon J. Ehlers, R
- 4 Dave Camp, R
- 5 Dale E. Kildee, D
- 6 Fred Upton, R
- 7 *Tim Walberg, R*
- 8 Mike Rogers, R
- 9 Joe Knollenberg, R
- 10 Candice S. Miller, R
- 11 Thaddeus McCotter, R
- 12 Sander M. Levin, D
- 13 Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, D
- 14 John Conyers Jr., D
- 15 John D. Dingell, D

Minnesota

Senate

Norm Coleman, R
Amy Klobuchar, D

House

- 1 *Tim Walz, D*
- 2 John Kline, R
- 3 Jim Ramstad, R
- 4 Betty McCollum, D
- 5 *Keith Ellison, D*
- 6 *Michele Bachmann, R*
- 7 Collin C. Peterson, D
- 8 James L. Oberstar, D

Mississippi

Senate

Thad Cochran, R
Trent Lott, R

House

- 1 Roger Wicker, R
- 2 Bennie Thompson, D
- 3 Charles W. "Chip" Pickering Jr., R
- 4 Gene Taylor, D

Missouri

Senate

Christopher S. Bond, R
Claire McCaskill, D

House

- 1 William Lacy Clay, D
- 2 Todd Akin, R
- 3 Russ Carnahan, D
- 4 Ike Skelton, D
- 5 Emanuel Cleaver II, D
- 6 Sam Graves, R
- 7 Roy Blunt, R
- 8 Jo Ann Emerson, R
- 9 Kenny Hulshof, R

Montana

Senate

Max Baucus, D
Jon Tester, D

House

AL Denny Rehberg, R

Nebraska

Senate

Chuck Hagel, R
Ben Nelson, D

House

- 1 Jeff Fortenberry, R
- 2 Lee Terry, R
- 3 *Adrian Smith, R*

Nevada

Senate

Harry Reid, D
John Ensign, R

House

- 1 Shelley Berkley, D
- 2 *Dean Heller, R*
- 3 Jon Porter, R

New Hampshire

Senate

Judd Gregg, R
John E. Sununu, R

House

- 1 *Carol Shea-Porter, D*
- 2 *Paul W. Hodes, D*

New Jersey

Senate

Frank R. Lautenberg, D
Robert Menendez, D

House

- 1 Robert E. Andrews, D
- 2 Frank A. LoBiondo, R
- 3 H. James Saxton, R
- 4 Christopher H. Smith, R
- 5 Scott Garrett, R
- 6 Frank Pallone Jr., D
- 7 Mike Ferguson, R

- 8 Bill Pascrell Jr., D
- 9 Steven R. Rothman, D
- 10 Donald M. Payne, D
- 11 Rodney Frelinghuysen, R
- 12 Rush D. Holt, D
- 13 *Albio Sires, D*

New Mexico

Senate

Pete V. Domenici, R
Jeff Bingaman, D

House

- 1 Heather A. Wilson, R or
Patricia Madrid, D
- 2 Steve Pearce, R
- 3 Tom Udall, D

New York

Senate

Charles E. Schumer, D
Hillary Rodham Clinton, D

House

- 1 Timothy H. Bishop, D
- 2 Steve Israel, D
- 3 Peter T. King, R
- 4 Carolyn McCarthy, D
- 5 Gary L. Ackerman, D
- 6 Gregory W. Meeks, D
- 7 Joseph Crowley, D
- 8 Jerrold Nadler, D
- 9 Anthony Weiner, D
- 10 Edolphus Towns, D
- 11 *Yvette D. Clarke, D*
- 12 Nydia M. Velázquez, D
- 13 Vito J. Fossella, R
- 14 Carolyn B. Maloney, D
- 15 Charles B. Rangel, D
- 16 José E. Serrano, D
- 17 Eliot L. Engel, D
- 18 Nita M. Lowey, D
- 19 *John Hall, D*
- 20 *Kirsten Gillibrand, D*
- 21 Michael R. McNulty, D
- 22 Maurice D. Hinchey, D
- 23 John M. McHugh, R
- 24 *Michael Arcuri, D*
- 25 James T. Walsh, R
- 26 Thomas M. Reynolds, R
- 27 Brian Higgins, D
- 28 Louise M. Slaughter, D
- 29 John R. "Randy" Kuhl Jr., R

North Carolina

Senate

Elizabeth Dole, R
Richard M. Burr, R

House

- 1 G.K. Butterfield, D
- 2 Bob Etheridge, D
- 3 Walter B. Jones, R
- 4 David E. Price, D
- 5 Virginia Foxx, R
- 6 Howard Coble, R
- 7 Mike McIntyre, D
- 8 Robin Hayes, R or
Larry Kissell, D
- 9 Sue Myrick, R
- 10 Patrick T. McHenry, R
- 11 *Heath Shuler, D*
- 12 Melvin Watt, D
- 13 Brad Miller, D

North Dakota

Senate

Kent Conrad, D
Byron L. Dorgan, D

House

AL Earl Pomeroy, D

Ohio

Senate

George V. Voinovich, R
Sherrod Brown, D

House

- 1 Steve Chabot, R
- 2 Jean Schmidt, R or *Victoria Wulsin, D*
- 3 Michael R. Turner, R
- 4 *Jim Jordan, R*
- 5 Paul E. Gillmor, R
- 6 *Charlie Wilson, D*
- 7 David L. Hobson, R
- 8 John A. Boehner, R
- 9 Marcy Kaptur, D
- 10 Dennis J. Kucinich, D
- 11 Stephanie Tubbs Jones, D
- 12 Pat Tiberi, R
- 13 *Betty Sutton, D*
- 14 Steven C. LaTourette, R
- 15 Deborah Pryce, R or *Mary Jo Kilroy, D*
- 16 Ralph Regula, R
- 17 Tim Ryan, D
- 18 *Zack Space, D*

Oklahoma

Senate

James M. Inhofe, R
Tom Coburn, R

House

- 1 John Sullivan, R
- 2 Dan Boren, D
- 3 Frank D. Lucas, R
- 4 Tom Cole, R
- 5 *Mary Fallin, R*

Oregon

Senate

Ron Wyden, D
Gordon H. Smith, R

House

- 1 David Wu, D
- 2 Greg Walden, R
- 3 Earl Blumenauer, D
- 4 Peter A. DeFazio, D
- 5 Darlene Hooley, D

Pennsylvania

Senate

Arlen Specter, R
Bob Casey, D

House

- 1 Robert A. Brady, D
- 2 Chaka Fattah, D
- 3 Phil English, R
- 4 *Jason Altmire, D*

- 5 John E. Peterson, R
- 6 Jim Gerlach, R or *Lois Murphy, D*
- 7 *Joe Sestak, D*
- 8 *Patrick J. Murphy, D* or Michael G. Fitzpatrick, R
- 9 Bill Shuster, R
- 10 *Chris Carney, D*
- 11 Paul E. Kanjorski, D
- 12 John P. Murtha, D
- 13 Allyson Y. Schwartz, D
- 14 Mike Doyle, D
- 15 Charlie Dent, R
- 16 Joe Pitts, R
- 17 Tim Holden, D
- 18 Tim Murphy, R
- 19 Todd R. Platts, R

Rhode Island

Senate

Jack Reed, D
Sheldon Whitehouse, D

House

- 1 Patrick J. Kennedy, D
- 2 Jim Langevin, D

South Carolina

Senate

Lindsey Graham, R
Jim DeMint, R

House

- 1 Henry E. Brown Jr., R
- 2 Joe Wilson, R
- 3 J. Gresham Barrett, R
- 4 Bob Inglis, R
- 5 John M. Spratt Jr., D
- 6 James E. Clyburn, D

South Dakota

Senate

Tim Johnson, D
John Thune, R

House

AL Stephanie Herseth, D

Tennessee

Senate

Lamar Alexander, R
Bob Corker, R

House

- 1 *David Davis, R*
- 2 John J. "Jimmy" Duncan Jr., R
- 3 Zach Wamp, R
- 4 Lincoln Davis, D
- 5 Jim Cooper, D
- 6 Bart Gordon, D
- 7 Marsha Blackburn, R
- 8 John Tanner, D
- 9 *Stephen I. Cohen, D*

Texas

Senate

Kay Bailey Hutchison, R
John Cornyn, R

House

- 1 Louie Gohmert, R
- 2 Ted Poe, R
- 3 Sam Johnson, R
- 4 Ralph M. Hall, R
- 5 Jeb Hensarling, R
- 6 Joe L. Barton, R
- 7 John Culberson, R
- 8 Kevin Brady, R
- 9 Al Green, D
- 10 Michael McCaul, R
- 11 K. Michael Conaway, R
- 12 Kay Granger, R
- 13 William M. "Mac" Thornberry, R
- 14 Ron Paul, R
- 15 Rubén Hinojosa, D
- 16 Silvestre Reyes, D
- 17 Chet Edwards, D
- 18 Sheila Jackson-Lee, D
- 19 Randy Neugebauer, R
- 20 Charlie Gonzalez, D
- 21 Lamar Smith, R
- 22 Nick Lampson, D
- 23 December runoff
- 24 Kenny Marchant, R
- 25 Lloyd Doggett, D
- 26 Michael C. Burgess, R
- 27 Solomon P. Ortiz, D
- 28 Henry Cuellar, D
- 29 Gene Green, D
- 30 Eddie Bernice Johnson, D
- 31 John Carter, R
- 32 Pete Sessions, R

Utah

Senate

Orrin G. Hatch, R
Robert F. Bennett, R

House

- 1 Rob Bishop, R
- 2 Jim Matheson, D
- 3 Chris Cannon, R

Vermont

Senate

Patrick J. Leahy, D
Bernard Sanders, I

House

AL *Peter Welch, D*

Virginia

Senate

John W. Warner, R
Jim Webb, D or George Allen, R

House

- 1 Jo Ann Davis, R
- 2 Thelma Drake, R
- 3 Robert C. Scott, D
- 4 J. Randy Forbes, R
- 5 Virgil H. Goode Jr., R
- 6 Robert W. Goodlatte, R
- 7 Eric Cantor, R
- 8 James P. Moran, D
- 9 Rick Boucher, D
- 10 Frank R. Wolf, R
- 11 Thomas M. Davis III, R

Washington

Senate

Patty Murray, D
Maria Cantwell, D

House

- 1 Jay Inslee, D
- 2 Rick Larsen, D
- 3 Brian Baird, D
- 4 Doc Hastings, R
- 5 Cathy McMorris, R
- 6 Norm Dicks, D
- 7 Jim McDermott, D
- 8 Dave Reichert, R or *Darcy Burner, D*
- 9 Adam Smith, D

West Virginia

Senate

Robert C. Byrd, D
John D. Rockefeller IV, D

House

- 1 Alan B. Mollohan, D
- 2 Shelley Moore Capito, R
- 3 Nick J. Rahall II, D

Wisconsin

Senate

Herb Kohl, D
Russ Feingold, D

House

- 1 Paul D. Ryan, R
- 2 Tammy Baldwin, D
- 3 Ron Kind, D
- 4 Gwen Moore, D
- 5 F. James Sensenbrenner Jr., R
- 6 Tom Petri, R
- 7 David R. Obey, D
- 8 *Steven L. Kagen, D*

Wyoming

Senate

Craig Thomas, R
Michael B. Enzi, R

House

AL Barbara Cubin, R or *Gary Trauner, D*

IOWA (2)

Dave Loeb sack, D

Pronounced: LOBE-sack
Election: Defeated Rep. Jim Leach, R
Residence: Mount Vernon
Born: December 23, 1952; Sioux City, Iowa
Religion: Methodist
Family: Wife, Teresa Loeb sack; four children
Education: Iowa State U., B.S. 1974 (political science), M.A. 1976 (political science); U. of California, Davis, Ph.D. 1985 (political science)
Military: None
Career: Professor
Political Highlights: No previous office

Dave Loeb sack has taught college-level foreign policy courses for 24 years and traveled extensively overseas — a background that informs his opposition to the Bush administration's Iraq policy. He endorses a gradual withdrawal of troops and the removal of Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.



The 2nd District has a number of colleges and universities, and Loeb sack vows to protect student financial aid from cutbacks.

He says he supports "greater transparency" in government, including an overhaul of campaign laws that would include public financing of campaigns. "I think we've got to get it to the point where don't have to worry about big money influencing campaigns in particular," he said.

Iowa has one of the nation's largest percentages of elderly residents. The 2003 Medicare prescription drug plan, he says, is confusing, and "it may be the case we just have to scrap it. At a minimum, it has to be reformed so that it is simplified."

He opposes private accounts under Social Security. He supports increasing to \$150,000 the income threshold that is subject to the payroll tax, and a minimum wage hike by at least \$2 per hour.

Loeb sack will enter the House as one of this year's unlikely winners, having unseated 15-term Republican Jim Leach — a low-key moderate widely respected by members of Congress in both parties.

KANSAS (2)

Nancy Boyda, D

Election: Defeated Rep. Jim Ryun, R
Home: Roseville
Born: Aug. 2, 1955; St. Louis, Mo.
Religion: Methodist
Family: Husband, Steve Boyda; two children, five stepchildren
Education: William Jewell College, B.S. 1977 (chemistry & education)
Military: None
Career: Pharmaceuticals chemist; teacher; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency chemist
Political Highlights: Democratic nominee for U.S. House, 2004

Nancy Boyda says her top concern in Congress will be health care, a natural match for her background in the pharmaceutical industry.



"I called for a bipartisan group or commission to look at health care. If this does not occur, the health care system will grind to a halt," she said.

Boyda wants the review to examine the amount that premiums are increased due to office paperwork, the potential for government to negotiate lower prescription drug prices for Medicare beneficiaries and restricting pharmaceutical companies' ability to engage in direct consumer advertising.

After campaigning heavily on the need for a change of course in Iraq, Boyda likely will work with fellow Democrats to support a phased withdrawal of forces. Boyda says a timetable would force the Iraqi government to learn to stand on its own and would allow the United States to redeploy forces to search for Osama bin Laden and other terrorists.

Immigration also will play a key role in Boyda's agenda, reflecting her state's growing concern over the issue. She has called for immediately ramping up funding for border enforcement as well as a viable worker verification system.

Additionally, Boyda has opposed the NASCO Super Corridor, a quarter-mile wide highway from Mexico to Canada, due to implications of its construction through the 2nd District.

KENTUCKY (3)

John Yarmuth, D

Election: Defeated Rep. Anne M. Northup, R
Home: Louisville
Born: Nov. 4, 1947; Louisville, Ky.
Religion: Jewish
Family: Wife, Cathy Yarmuth; one child
Education: Yale U., B.A. 1969; Georgetown U. Law School, attended 1971-72
Career: Periodical publisher and columnist; television commentator; public relations executive; congressional aide; stockbroker
Political Highlights: Republican nominee for Louisville Board of Alderman, 1975; Republican nominee for Jefferson County Board of Commissioners, 1981

John Yarmuth says he was inspired to challenge Republican Anne M. Northup for Kentucky's 3rd District seat to address the needs of ordinary Americans on issues such as health care, education and the minimum wage.



"Our government has made the rich and powerful its priority, and I think it is time that changed," Yarmuth said.

He intends to focus in particular on health care issues. Yarmuth, like most Democrats, wants to allow the government to negotiate Medicare prescription drug prices directly with drug-makers to reduce prices for beneficiaries. He also supports an increase in the minimum wage, an early priority for Democratic leaders in the 110th Congress. And he has criticized the No Child Left Behind education law (PL 107-110), which is up for renewal next year.

On foreign policy, Yarmuth is calling for a reduced U.S. troop presence in Iraq.

While Yarmuth would like a coveted assignment to the Appropriations or Ways and Means panels, he also is interested in serving on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, a more achievable goal for a freshman.

Yarmuth said in October that House Democratic leaders had not promised him any specific assignments, but that Minority Whip Steny H. Hoyer of Maryland had pledged that the Democratic Caucus would work with Yarmuth on projects related to his district.

MARYLAND (3)

John Sarbanes, D

Election: Defeated John White, R, to succeed Benjamin L. Cardin, D, who ran for Senate

Home: Towson

Born: May 22, 1962, Baltimore

Religion: Greek Orthodox

Family: Wife, Dina Sarbanes; three children

Education: Princeton U., A.B. 1984; Harvard U., J.D. 1988

Career: Lawyer; state education consultant

Political Highlights: No previous office

John Sarbanes' well-known last name might have played a role in winning his seat in Congress.

But the oldest son of Maryland Sen. Paul S. Sarbanes, who is retiring at the end of the 109th Congress, has extensive experience as a health care lawyer and consultant to the troubled Baltimore City schools.

Sarbanes, who spent the past 18 years at the Venable law firm representing hospitals and other medical providers, says his top priority will be expanding health coverage to the uninsured.

Sarbanes believes that there is a "health care crisis" but concedes that past Democratic proposals for creating a new system have proven "too good to be true." Instead, he says, Congress should find ways to expand existing Medicare and Medicare programs as well as employer-sponsored health insurance. For example, Sarbanes would back lowering the eligibility age for Medicare coverage from 65 to 50.

"They'll be an upfront cost for expanded coverage," he conceded. But he argues that more preventive coverage would ultimately save money.

Sarbanes says he also will focus on education policy and is interested in working on next year's reauthorization of federal education legislation.

The law needs to be overhauled and move away from its "obsessive focus" on math and reading and encourage studies in the humanities and sciences, he said. He also said factors used to determine school performance are "too rigid."



MICHIGAN (7)

Tim Walberg, R

Election: Defeated Sharon Renier, D, after defeating Rep. Joe Schwarz in the primary

Home: Tipton

Born: April 12, 1951, Chicago, Ill.

Religion: Protestant

Family: Wife, Sue Walberg; three children

Education: Western Illinois U., attended 1969-70; Fort Wayne Bible College, B.S. 1975; Wheaton College (Ill.), M.A. 1978

Career: Religious-school fundraiser; education think tank president; minister

Political Highlights: Mich. House, 1983-98; sought Republican nomination for U.S. House, 2004

As a member of Congress, one group Tim Walberg won't have to try to impress is the Club for Growth. The conservative group best known for its anti-tax stand was one of his biggest supporters, and Walberg vows to stay true to the organization's core principles.

A minister and devout Christian, Walberg often preaches on social issues. He strongly opposes abortion and gay marriage.

Walberg credits his 16-year record in the state House and his faith as reasons why he was elected. Faith "defines me in a great way of who I am," Walberg said.

Calling his predecessor a "RINO" — Republican In Name Only — Walberg vows to call out moderate Republicans who he says abandon the party's conservative principles.

Walberg is an avid sportsman and supports gun owners' rights.

Walberg is interested in the influential Energy and Commerce Committee but understands that he has a better shot at the Agriculture Committee, which would help him advocate for his heavily rural district, which has been represented on the committee for numerous terms.

Walberg says his first objective in Congress will be "rebuilding of bridges," a reference to his hard-fought primary campaign in which he had to overcome the backing of first-term Rep. Joe Schwarz by virtually all of the state and national Republican establishment.



MINNESOTA (1)

Tim Walz, D

Pronounced: WALLS

Election: Defeated Rep. Gil Gutknecht, R

Home: Mankato

Born: April 6, 1964, West Point, Neb.

Religion: Lutheran

Family: Wife, Gwen Walz; two children

Education: Chadron State College, B.S. 1989; Minnesota State U., Mankato, M.S. 2001; Saint Mary's U. of Minnesota, attending

Military: Neb. National Guard, 1981-96; Minn. National Guard, 1996-2005

Career: Teacher; mortgage processor

Political Highlights: No previous office

A high school teacher and military veteran, Tim Walz says he never expected to pursue a career in Congress. He says he became involved in politics after taking some students to a campaign rally for President Bush, only to see the teenagers barred from the event after being questioned about their political leanings.

"People are just so frustrated with the everyday dealings of Congress — the idea that there's not open debate. I believe we have a critical responsibility to help heal the divisiveness in this country," he said.

One of his priorities will be to change the No Child Left Behind law to allow states greater flexibility in setting education goals. He also hopes to focus on making college education more affordable. Improving public education, Walz says, will improve the prospects for young workers and, at the same time, strengthen the economy.

Walz retired in 2005 after 24 years in the Army National Guard, including a recent deployment to Italy to oversee supply shipments to troops in Afghanistan. Of Iraq, he said: "It's a financial drain, it's dividing the country and it's broken our military." He has called for the United States to work with other nations in the region to achieve long-term stability, and to withdraw troops as Iraq meets certain milestones.

Walz says he will work across party lines to find the best way to end the violence and take care of returning veterans. He hopes to win seats on the Agriculture and Veterans' Affairs committees.



MINNESOTA (5)

Keith Ellison, D

Election: Defeated Alan Fine, R, to succeed Martin Olav Sabo, D, who retired
Home: Minneapolis
Born: Aug. 4, 1963, Detroit, Mich.
Religion: Muslim
Family: Wife, Kim Ellison; four children
Education: Wayne State U., B.A. 1986, attended 1986-87; U. of Minnesota, J.D. 1990
Career: Lawyer; nonprofit law firm executive director
Political Highlights: Minn. House, 2003-present

Keith Ellison said he has mixed feelings about being the first Muslim congressman: "I wasn't trying to make any kind of political statement about my identity or anything when I ran."



But he says he wants to help others understand that Muslims have much to contribute to America, while Muslims themselves should know they are "welcome to the table of American politics."

On policy matters, Ellison wants to emulate Democratic Rep. Martin Olav Sabo, who is retiring after nearly three decades representing the staunchly Democratic suburban Minneapolis district.

For Ellison, that includes promoting peace, setting up universal health care — which he calls "the human rights issue of our time" — and fighting for middle-class economic justice by increasing the minimum wage and addressing college affordability.

His goal, he says, is to create "inclusive policy," which reflects that "everyone counts and everyone matters."

In his effort to end the war in Iraq, Ellison has called for an immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops, to be replaced by diplomatic personnel.

"I don't believe in abandonment of Iraq, I just don't think that we're going to have a military solution," he said.

Ellison says he would be interested in serving on the Judiciary Committee as well as one that would allow him to "help improve the economic climate for middle-class people."

MINNESOTA (6)

Michele Bachmann, R

Pronounced: BOCK-man
Election: Defeated Patty Wetterling, D, to succeed Mark Kennedy, R, who ran for Senate
Home: Stillwater
Born: April 6, 1956, Waterloo, Iowa
Religion: Evangelical Lutheran
Family: Husband, Marcus; five children
Education: Winona State U., B.A. 1978; Oral Roberts U., J.D. 1986; College of William and Mary, LL.M. 1988
Career: Homemaker; U.S. Treasury Department lawyer
Political Highlights: Candidate for school board, 1999; Minn. Senate, 2001-present

Michele Bachmann already is well-known in her home state for her staunchly conservative stands on social issues, including her opposition to abortion rights and same-sex marriage. She was the chief author in the state Senate of a proposed amendment to define marriage as between one man and one woman.



But as a member of Congress, Bachmann will be looking to draw attention to other priorities, including changing the education system and cutting taxes for the district's residents.

Education was the issue that jump-started Bachmann's career in politics. She became an activist against the state's performance-based Profile of Learning program and is an advocate for local control of schools.

"Those closest to our students — not well-intentioned-but-distant bureaucrats — understand best our students' needs," she said.

Taxes are another top issue for Bachmann. She has pledged to work to make permanent the Bush administration tax cuts, repeal the estate tax and further reduce the so-called "marriage penalty."

"I will continue to support a conservative platform of smaller government, fewer government regulations and reduced taxes for hard-working Americans," she said.

On social issues, Bachmann said, "I'll be happy to be a strong voice for pro-life and pro-family, so that policies are positively impacting families."

NEBRASKA (3)

Adrian Smith, R

Election: Defeated Scott Kleeb, D, to succeed Tom Osborne, R, who ran for governor
Home: Gering
Born: Dec. 19, 1970, Scottsbluff, Neb.
Religion: Christian
Family: Single
Education: Liberty U., attended 1989-90; U. of Nebraska, B.S. 1993
Career: Storage company owner; realtor; education workshop coordinator; substitute teacher
Political Highlights: Gering City Council, 1994-98; Neb. Legislature, 1999-present

Adrian Smith's conservative credentials have been honed during years as a party loyalist. His career path, he says, was inspired by President Ronald Reagan's visit to his fourth-grade class.



Smith has made tax policy a focus of his tenure in the state legislature. He views his political philosophy — through his years in city council to his tenure as a Nebraska state senator — as "progressive-conservative" and sees tax cuts as the center of his agenda. He says he never believed he would be interested in tax policy, "but taxes have a large effect on the economy."

Some of his ideas for changing the tax code are directly related to farm policy. His district is comprised predominantly of cattle ranchers and sugar beet and wheat farmers. Smith wants to reduce the capital gains tax for landowners who sell to new farmers, and he wants to change Section 1031 of the code, which he says is a tax shelter for property owners who sell urban land and then buy farmland soon afterward.

Smith says he would prefer seats on the Agriculture Committee, which is expected to write a new farm bill in 2007, as well as the Transportation and Infrastructure panel.

A hallmark of Smith's campaign was his goal to become a career congressman, and he has repeatedly asserted that he does not have any ambitions to seek higher office. "My roots are here in Nebraska," he said.

NEVADA (2)

Dean Heller, R

Election: Defeated Jill Derby, D, to succeed Jim Gibbons, R, who ran for governor

Home: Carson City

Born: May 10, 1960, Castro Valley, Calif.

Religion: Mormon

Family: Wife, Lynne Heller; four children

Education: U. of Southern California, B.S. 1985

Career: Commercial banker; chief deputy state treasurer; stockbroker

Political Highlights: Nev. Assembly, 1990-94; Nev. secretary of state, 1995-present

The urge to seek political office has been with Dean Heller since a boyhood newspaper route took him to the Nevada Capitol building.



When he began working there as a state legislator and later as secretary of state, he found that two topics got his blood flowing: retirement issues and veterans' affairs. In Congress, he wants to build on his work on Nevada's public employees' retirement system — which he says was going bankrupt until he wrote a ballot initiative that shielded it from legislators — as well as his efforts to get Congress to appropriate funds to search for U.S. POWs and MIAs in Vietnam.

As a freshman, he hopes to win a seat on the Resources Committee, given that mining, agriculture and water rights are critical to Nevada. He says he has a reputation as a maverick on environmental issues. He also has an eye on the Transportation and Infrastructure panel.

In the long term, given his interest in protecting and preserving Social Security, his past in banking, and his experience with securities regulation issues at the state level, he eventually would like to serve on Ways and Means.

Heller says he is proud of his efforts to promote fiscal transparency, and he says his "supply side" economic views were shaped by a conversation he had with Republican former Rep. Jack F. Kemp of New York (1971-89), at the wedding of Kemp's nephew, with whom Heller worked as a stockbroker.

NEW HAMPSHIRE (1)

Carol Shea-Porter, D

Election: Defeated Rep. Jeb Bradley, R

Home: Rochester

Born: December 1952; Brooklyn, N.Y.

Religion: Roman Catholic

Family: Husband, Gene; two children

Education: U. of New Hampshire, B.A. 1975, M.P.A. 1979

Career: Community college instructor; social worker

Political Highlights: No previous office

Carol Shea-Porter confounded her critics by riding a wave of anti-war sentiment and scoring a surprise victory over two-term Republican Rep. Jeb Bradley. She is the first woman from New Hampshire elected to Congress, where she hopes to be a voice for the middle class.

"I'm going to do exactly what I promised. I'll speak out for the rest of us," she told supporters following her election night victory.

While most political pundits consider Shea-Porter's lack of political experience a hindrance, she considers it one of her most important assets.

She says she looks forward to finding lawmakers who share her ideology. She labels herself a moderate-progressive, is a member of several environmental organizations and supports a national health care plan.

Shea-Porter intends to seek a seat on the Armed Services Committee, where she plans to hold the Bush administration accountable for what she says are failed policies in the Iraq War.

She says she also will push to eliminate the tax cuts for the top 1 percent of income earners, vote to raise the minimum wage and help Americans struggling with the burdens of high insurance and medical costs.

In a race that was barely a blip on the political radar, Shea-Porter's campaign was largely grass roots and similarly funded. Her opponent enjoyed a 3-to-1 fundraising advantage.



NEW HAMPSHIRE (2)

Paul W. Hodes, D

Election: Defeated Charles Bass, R

Home: Concord

Born: March 21, 1951, Manhattan, N.Y.

Religion: Jewish

Family: Wife, Peggo Horstmann Hodes; two children

Education: Dartmouth College, A.B. 1972; Boston College, J.D. 1978

Career: Lawyer; musician; state prosecutor

Political Highlights: Democratic nominee for U.S. House, 2004

Paul W. Hodes says a career in law and public service, complemented by his passion for the arts, should bode well for him in what could be a hostile 110th Congress.

"I am going to be a voice for regaining and restoring the integrity and institution of Congress," he said.

Hodes is interested in serving on the Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary committees.

He refers to himself as a reflection of his constituents, whom he describes as having "a strong tradition for practical problem-solving."

At the top of his agenda are the Iraq War and holding the Bush administration accountable for what he says is its failed policy; he offered a seven-point plan for getting out of Iraq.

Hodes also is interested in legislation that would speed up the development of alternative fuels and eliminate U.S. dependence on foreign oil. Also, he hopes to take steps toward cleaning up the environment.

He considers the 2001 No Child Left Behind Act a problem and says he would either "fix and fund" or repeal the law.

Hodes and his wife, Peggo, founded a musical group called Peggosus. They have recorded six children's albums, earning several Parents' Choice awards. He received support from the American Federation of Musicians and says this background will suit him well when intellectual-property issues arise.



NEW JERSEY (13)

Albio Sires, D

Pronounced: SEAR-ees (like “series”) **Election:** Defeated John G. Guarini, R, to succeed now-Sen. Robert Menendez, D **Home:** West New York **Born:** Jan. 26, 1951, Bejucal, Cuba **Religion:** Roman Catholic **Family:** Wife, Adrienne Sires; one stepchild **Education:** Saint Peter’s College, B.A. 1974; Middlebury College, M.A. 1985 **Career:** Property title insurance firm owner **Political Highlights:** GOP nominee for U.S. House, 1986, and Hudson County Board, 1987; ran for West N.Y. Town Commission, 1983, 1991, 1993, served, 1995-present; N.J. Assembly, 2000-present (Speaker, 2002-06)

In 1986, an ambitious young New Jersey Republican named Albio Sires gambled on a long-shot bid for the House. The result was a trouncing at the hands of veteran Democratic Rep. Frank J. Guarini, but it was only the beginning of what turned out to be a bright political career for Sires. It now culminates, 20 years later, with his election to the House — as a Democrat.



Sires, a former high school Spanish teacher, has evolved from a Republican to an independent to a loyal member of the powerful Democratic machine in Hudson County, which includes Jersey City.

Sires says he hopes to continue his history of working with all political kinds and possibly injecting a little more bipartisan spirit into the House.

“I know that the climate down there is a little difficult now, to say the least,” he said. “I guess I can get as partisan as anybody, but at the same time, over the years I’ve developed the ability to deal with everybody.”

If bipartisan outreach doesn’t work, “we’ll try something else,” he laughed.

Sires would like to work on homeland security issues since his district has major port facilities, several bridges, two major tunnels to New York City and chemical factories nearby.

He also plans to continue his work on education — hoping to push what he views as needed changes to the No Child Left Behind education law — and on expanding housing opportunities.

NEW YORK (11)

Yvette D. Clarke, D

Election: Defeated Stephen Finger, R, to Major R. Owens, D, who retired **Home:** Brooklyn **Born:** Nov. 21, 1964, Brooklyn, N.Y. **Religion:** Christian **Family:** Single **Education:** Oberlin College, attended 1982-86 **Career:** Local economic development director; day care and youth program coordinator; state agency aide; state legislative aide **Political Highlights:** New York City Council, 2002-present; sought Democratic nomination for U.S. House, 2004

As the daughter of a “civic leader activist” and former New York City councilwoman, Yvette D. Clarke said her involvement in politics came about “almost by osmosis.



“I didn’t really realize it until I was in the middle of it,” she said of her career, which now involves representing the 11th District in Brooklyn. She succeeds 12-term Rep. Major R. Owens, whom she challenged in the 2004 primary.

Clarke says she plans to let her interests influence her committee assignments but that she also wants to help address the district’s economic issues.

To that end, she says, she would be interested in a seat on one of the committees that covers economic infrastructure: Ways and Means; Energy and Commerce; Small Business; Financial Services; and Appropriations.

Her interests and personal experience also lead her to the Judiciary and International Relations committees, she says, adding that she is concerned about how the nationwide immigration debate will affect her district if her “voice doesn’t help to shape that in some form or fashion.”

Clarke says she also would focus on constituent services, an area she says voters complained about during her campaign.

The key to legislating, Clarke said, is “remembering you’re a public servant and that you’re a representative, and so the decisions that you make have to do with the greater good.”

NEW YORK (19)

John Hall, D

Election: Defeated Rep. Sue W. Kelly, R **Home:** Dover Plains **Born:** July 23, 1948, Baltimore, Md. **Religion:** Christian **Family:** Wife, Pamela Bingham Hall; one child **Education:** Notre Dame U., attended 1964-65; Loyola U. (Md.), attended 1965-66 **Career:** Songwriter and musician; ski instructor **Political Highlights:** Ulster County Legislature, 1990-91; Saugerties Central School District Board of Education, 1996-98 (president, 1998)

Touring with a rock band might not be the typical pedigree for a member of Congress, but John Hall is not typical in many ways.



An above-average student who finished high school and enrolled at the University of Notre Dame at age 16, Hall later quit school to pursue his music career. He was a mainstay and songwriter of the popular group Orleans.

But a concern for the environment and an interest in alternative energy pulled him into civic activism and public office throughout his life.

His concern for the Bush administration’s energy policy, which he calls “window dressing and a bunch of rhetoric,” drove him to run for Congress.

“I want to be able to sleep at night knowing that I did everything I could to stop an unfolding disaster,” Hall said.

As his main priority is ending federal subsidies for oil and coal, he wants to develop what he calls an “Apollo Project” for renewable energy. To that end, he will seek a seat on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Although he says education, health care, national security and the deficit also are serious concerns, he believes energy independence would help all those areas.

“That would give the American psyche such a jolt, such a shot in the arm,” Hall said. “We would once again feel like a country in control of its own destiny.”

NEW YORK (20)

Kirsten Gillibrand, D**Pronounced:** JILL-uh-brand**Election:** Defeated Rep. John E. Sweeney, R**Home:** Greenport**Born:** Dec. 9, 1966, Albany, N.Y.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Husband, Jonathan Gillibrand; one child**Education:** Dartmouth College, A.B. 1988; U. of California, Los Angeles, J.D. 1991**Career:** Lawyer; U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department aide**Political Highlights:** No previous office

Although Kirsten Gillibrand has spent much of the past 15 years representing white-collar defendants and focusing on securities litigation, her time in Washington will likely be spent on issues that differ from those she addressed as a private attorney.



She plans to push for a wide range of tax-reduction measures, including those for middle class families, for manufacturers that make more efficient farm equipment and for the creation of biofuels, and a \$10 billion plan to allow middle class parents to deduct up to \$10,000 a year in college tuition.

Gillibrand calls for fuel-economy standards for cars to be increased up to 60 miles per gallon and for revisions to the Medicare prescription drug program to allow the government to negotiate prices directly with pharmaceutical companies.

A fierce critic of the Iraq War, Gillibrand will be another voice for U.S. troop withdrawals once the United States takes steps to help start the peace process between the warring ethnic factions.

On immigration, Gillibrand supports building a fence along the U.S.-Mexican border. But she also favors more lenient restrictions on the U.S.-Canadian border, seeking to loosen rules requiring people to show passports when crossing the Canadian border — she says a photo identification card is sufficient.

NEW YORK (24)

Michael Arcuri, D**Pronounced:** are-CURE-ee**Election:** Defeated Ray Meier, R, to succeed Sherwood Boehlert, R, who retired**Home:** Utica**Born:** June 11, 1959, Utica, N.Y.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Divorced; two children**Education:** State U. of New York, Albany, B.A. 1981; New York Law School, J.D. 1984**Career:** Lawyer; college instructor**Political Highlights:** Oneida County district attorney, 1994-present

Democrat Michael Arcuri expects few philosophical differences between himself and the district's retiring congressman, Sherwood Boehlert.



Arcuri describes himself as a "Sherry Boehlert Democrat" after the 12-term Republican legislator, recognized as a solidly moderate voice in New York's delegation.

"[Boehlert] was liberal on many of the social issues and he was fiscally conservative, and I think that really defines my position on issues better than anything else," Arcuri said.

Arcuri, a 12-year district attorney, says he was compelled to run for Congress because of its "lack of priorities." The deciding moment came, he says, when he watched lawmakers debate the federal budget after voting to cut student loans.

"I thought, there they go again balancing the budget on the shoulders of the people that need it most," he said.

Arcuri says a seat on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee would help him best serve his constituents. "In our district, roads — or lack thereof — is a critical issue," he said.

Other top priorities include adopting the recommendations of the Sept. 11 Commission, raising the minimum wage and addressing shortcomings in the nation's health care system.

"Until we get the will as a country to actually do something about health care, it's never going to happen," he said.

NORTH CAROLINA (11)

Heath Shuler, D**Pronounced:** SHOO-lur**Election:** Defeated Rep. Charles H. Taylor, R**Home:** Waynesville**Born:** Dec. 31, 1971, Bryson City, N.C.**Religion:** Baptist**Family:** Wife, Nikol Shuler; two children**Education:** U. of Tennessee, B.A. 2001**Career:** Real estate company owner; medical record smart card company president; professional football player**Political Highlights:** No previous office

Hopes were high the first time that Heath Shuler came to the nation's capital, as a first-round draft pick for the Washington Redskins. The quarterback's five years in the National Football League didn't match the expectations that arose when he played for the University of Tennessee, but with an equally auspicious beginning as a politician, he has a chance to do better the second time around.



Shuler, a devout Christian, is more conservative than the average Democrat. He opposes abortion rights and gun control, and he plans to fight for balanced budgets as part of the Blue Dog Coalition, a group of moderate and conservative Democrats that backed his campaign. But, he says, his family roots in the party are stronger than any differences he has with its leaders.

"My grandmother always gave me the advice, 'Heath, help those who can't help themselves.' If you look at one reason why I am a Democrat, it's because the party helps those who can't help themselves. It's a moral obligation," he said.

He says he believes in the power of an active government and plans to push for greater funding for children's health care and for research into alternative energy sources.

Much of his district's western edge is public land. As such, Shuler hopes for a seat on the Appropriations subcommittee that funds the Interior Department or on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

OHIO (4)

Jim Jordan, R

Election: Defeated Richard E. Siferd, D, to succeed Michael G. Oxley, R, who retired
Home: Urbana
Born: Feb. 17, 1964, Troy, Ohio
Religion: Christian non-denominational
Family: Wife, Polly Jordan; four children
Education: U. of Wisconsin, B.S. 1986; Ohio State U., M.A. 1991; Capital U., J.D. 2001
Career: College wrestling coach
Political Highlights: Ohio House, 1995-2000; Ohio Senate, 2001-present

House Republican leader J. Dennis Hastert might have to clear up what he means if he ever asks Jim Jordan to “go to the mat” for him on a piece of legislation.



That is because Jordan is a former high school and college wrestling champion who — like Hastert — also coached the sport.

Jordan described himself as one of the most conservative legislators in the Ohio Legislature — and surely will chart a rightward course in Congress. When evaluating legislation, he says he will ask himself, “Will this decision benefit families?”

He introduced numerous anti-abortion bills as a state legislator and says he will strongly support federal efforts to ban abortion and same-sex marriage.

Jordan, though, will not be a reflexive vote for the leadership, particularly if he thinks GOP fiscal policy does not cut taxes and spending enough. Endorsed by the free-market-oriented Club for Growth, Jordan supports permanently extending the Bush administration tax cuts.

On health care issues, Jordan supports expanding health savings accounts. On energy policy, he supports oil drilling and streamlining the process to build new refineries.

Still, partisan enmity is not his style. He said he is a “happy warrior... the guy who is fighting for the things I believe in and the things that I think make this country special — but do it with a smile.”

OHIO (6)

Charlie Wilson, D

Election: Defeated Chuck Blasdel, R, to succeed Ted Strickland, D, who ran for governor
Home: St. Clairsville
Born: Jan. 18, 1943, Martins Ferry, Ohio
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Divorced; four children
Education: Ohio U., B.G.S. 1980
Career: Real estate company owner; funeral home and furniture company owner; auto worker
Political Highlights: Ohio House, 1997-2004 (assistant minority leader, 2000-04); Ohio Senate, 2005-present

Charlie Wilson is hardly subtle about what he believes his southeastern Ohio district needs from him in Washington.



“My focus in the Congress will be jobs, jobs and, of course, jobs,” Wilson said.

To help the region’s steelworkers — his district straddles Appalachia — Wilson said he will push for changes in trade policy. “Free trade is not really fair trade,” Wilson said. “We need to keep our steel mills functional in the event we need them, rather than be dependent on offshore steel.”

Wilson comes with unique credentials to speak on behalf of manufacturing: He once worked on a Ford assembly line in Lorraine, Ohio.

Wilson says he also will seek ways for the federal government to encourage the development of clean coal technology.

The owner of a commercial real estate development company, Wilson says will seek committee assignments where he can apply his experience, particularly Energy and Commerce.

Wilson, who opposes abortion and is a member of the National Rifle Association, says his moderate political views reflect those that predominate in his largely rural district.

“The NRA affiliation is one of being raised in an area with hunters and fishermen,” he said. “As we move forward, that’s not going to be as much a Republican-Democratic issue as a city-rural issue.”

OHIO (13)

Betty Sutton, D

Election: Defeated Craig Foltin, R, to succeed Sherrod Brown, D, who ran for Senate
Home: Copley Township
Born: July 31, 1963, Barberton, Ohio
Religion: Methodist
Family: Husband, Doug Corwon; two stepchildren
Education: Kent State U., B.A. 1985; U. of Akron, J.D. 1990
Career: Lawyer; campaign aide; modeling school administrator
Political Highlights: Barberton City Council, 1990-91; Summit County Council, 1991-92 (vice president, 1992); Ohio House, 1993-2000

Betty Sutton may be just the person to help clear the air of the corruption scandals roiling Capitol Hill. She defeated a Republican mayor whose key aide was recently convicted of obstruction in a police probe.



During her career in the state House, Sutton was a loud advocate for accountability and honest government. She tried to impose a campaign code of ethics and has cosponsored legislation to voluntarily limit campaign spending and prevent lobbyists from picking up the tab for conference speaking fees.

Sutton won her first race for city council at age 26 and has never lost a race since. This year, she ran on a six-point corruption-busting platform that includes banning privately funded travel by lawmakers, opening all committee meetings to the public and requiring disclosure of earmark sponsors.

A local newspaper endorsement described Sutton as a “clone” of her predecessor, outgoing Democratic Rep. Sherrod Brown. She is pro-union and calls U.S. trade policy “flawed.” Like Brown, Sutton wants to change the Medicare prescription drug plan, supports raising the minimum wage and opposes GOP efforts to repeal the federal estate tax.

She says she would like to win assignment to the Energy and Commerce Committee, where Brown served, and to its Health Subcommittee.

OHIO (18)

Zack Space, D**Election:** Defeated Joy Padgett, R, to

succeed Bob Ney, R, who resigned

Home: Dover**Born:** Jan. 27, 1961, Dover, Ohio**Religion:** Greek Orthodox**Family:** Wife, Mary Space; two children**Education:** Kenyon College, B.A. 1983; Ohio State U., J.D. 1986**Career:** Lawyer; county public defender**Political Highlights:** Sought Democratic nomination for Ohio House, 1990; Dover law director, 2000-present

Zack Space will be closely identified with congressional ethics — and not just because his father's first name is Socrates.

He is succeeding Republican Bob Ney, who pleaded guilty to federal corruption charges stemming from his association with convicted lobbyist Jack Abramoff.

"Special interests have way too much influence in Washington," said Space, who promises to refuse lobbyist gifts, meals and trips.

Space bemoans his hardscrabble district's loss of manufacturing jobs, which he attributes in part to trade pacts he says have not been adequately enforced. He says he would modify them by punishing countries that do not abide by labor standards and providing incentives for those that do.

Skyrocketing health care costs also make it hard for companies to stay open in a district that Space says hasn't reaped the fruits of the surging economy.

"Drive around my district, man, you'll see all kinds of abandoned factories — or if they're not abandoned, they're not being used as warehouses," said Space, who also said his district includes schools in disrepair.

The local economy is historically reliant on coal, and Space says employing clean-coal technologies would boost employment and help wean the nation from foreign energy sources.

Mindful of the cultural conservatism in the district, Space supports gun owners' rights.



OKLAHOMA (5)

Mary Fallin, R**Pronounced:** FAL-in (rhymes with "Allen")**Election:** Defeated David Hunter, D, to succeed Ernest Istook, R, who ran for governor**Home:** Oklahoma City**Born:** Dec. 9, 1954, Warrensburg, Mo.**Religion:** Christian non-denominational**Family:** Divorced; two children**Education:** Oklahoma Baptist U., attended 1973-75; Oklahoma State U., B.S. 1977; U. of Central Oklahoma, attended 1979-81**Career:** Real estate broker; hotel properties manager; state tourism agency official**Political Highlights:** Okla. House, 1990-94; lieutenant governor, 1995-present

Mary Fallin will enter the 110th Congress as one of its most politically seasoned freshmen.

She is finishing her 12th year as Oklahoma's lieutenant governor and previously served four years in the state House.

Fallin notes she already has worked to balance state budgets and allocate dollars to state programs — experiences she expects will help her grapple with federal budget issues. She wants to make the Bush-era tax cuts permanent and eliminate earmarks as part of a drive to cut spending and shrink the size of government.

Fallin will be only the second Oklahoma woman to serve in Congress and the first since Republican Alice Mary Robertson left in 1923 after one House term. No stranger to trailblazing, Fallin is Oklahoma's first woman lieutenant governor.

Fallin says that overhauling immigration laws and strengthening national security are two major issues of interest to her district. She also wants to work to curb the rising costs of health care and education.

Fallin's interest in public service was piqued by her father and mother, who served as Democratic mayors of Tecumseh, a small city about 25 miles south-east of Oklahoma City.

Her parents were Democrats, but Fallin shared that her mother and grandmother switched their registrations in order to vote for her.



PENNSYLVANIA (4)

Jason Altmire, D**Election:** Defeated Rep. Melissa A. Hart, R**Home:** McCandless**Born:** March 7, 1968, Kittanning, Pa.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife, Kelly Altmire; two children**Education:** Florida State U., B.S. 1990; George Washington U., M.H.S.A. 1998**Career:** Hospital association executive; lobbyist; congressional aide**Political Highlights:** No previous office

Jason Altmire describes himself as a conservative Democrat. He says his political philosophy is in line with the culturally conservative but "politically down-the-middle" constituents of his district.

After a career as a congressional aide and a private-sector executive in the field of health care, Altmire intends to focus on health care and trade issues.

He wants to make health care more affordable and more accessible; allow the importation of prescription drugs from Canada and western Europe; and allow Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices directly with manufacturers.

Altmire says his support of a federal role in embryonic stem cell research is consistent with his anti-abortion position because the embryos would be discarded anyway by fertility clinics.

The congressman-elect says U.S. trade policy in recent years has led to job losses in his western Pennsylvania district, and that Congress should have a more active role in trade negotiations.

Altmire hopes to win a seat on the Ways and Means Committee, but he also is interested in the Energy and Commerce and Appropriations panels.

Given the wave of mostly Republican congressional scandals in recent years, Altmire says he wants to "help restore a confidence and a trust in the Congress that I feel is missing right now."



PENNSYLVANIA (7)

Joe Sestak, D

Pronounced: SESS-tack
Election: Defeated, Curt Weldon, R
Home: Wallingford
Born: Dec. 12, 1951, Secane, Pa.
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Wife, Susan Clark-Sestak; one child
Education: U.S. Naval Academy, B.S. 1974; Harvard U., M.P.A. 1980, Ph.D. 1984
Military: Navy, 1974-2005
Career: Navy officer
Political Highlights: No previous office



Described by colleagues as a brilliant and exceptionally demanding leader with a solid grasp of national security issues, Joe Sestak brings to Congress the experience and perspective of a career military man. A retired Navy vice admiral, he served for more than three decades and has pledged to bring the “same level of pride and commitment” to elective office that he brought to military service.

Sestak credits the Naval Academy for teaching him “everything that ought to be about politics: Don’t lie, don’t steal, don’t cheat.”

The academy’s mission — to prepare midshipmen not just for naval service but also for the responsibilities of citizenship — compelled him to run for Congress, he says, as did his vehement opposition to the Bush administration’s handling of the war on terrorism.

National security begins at home, he says, and is built on four pillars: the economy, health care, education and defense.

A vocal proponent of health care overhaul, Sestak recalls something he overheard when his daughter was fighting brain cancer: The distraught parents of a boy with leukemia were wondering how they were going to provide care for their son because they had no insurance.

Sestak has proposed a detailed nine-step approach to overhauling health care, in which government takes a more active role with regard to accountability, benefits and choices without seizing control of the system.

LEADING AT PRESS TIME

PENNSYLVANIA (8)

Patrick J. Murphy, D

Election: Opposed Rep. Michael G. Fitzpatrick, R
Home: Bristol Township
Born: Oct. 19, 1973, Philadelphia, Pa.
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Wife, Jenni Murphy
Education: Bucks Community College, attended 1991-92; King’s College (Pa.), B.S. 1996; Widener U., Harrisburg, J.D. 1999
Military: Army, 1996-2004; Army Reserve, 2004-present
Career: Lawyer; military prosecutor; college instructor
Political Highlights: No previous office



Steering a new course of action in Iraq is high on Patrick J. Murphy’s list of priorities as a member of Congress. He served as an officer in Baghdad with the 82nd Airborne Division and lost 19 members of his unit in combat.

“In my time in Baghdad I saw with my own eyes how vital it is for us as a nation to change the course of President Bush’s failed foreign policy,” he said.

He says his top priority is to set a timetable for U.S. troop withdrawals from Iraq. He proposes “aggressive regional diplomacy” with a “Dayton Accords-style summit to bring Arab nations and Iraqi factions into the peace process.”

In addition, he says he will advocate for establishing a new GI Bill of Rights, which would expand the active-duty forces, improve equipment distributed to soldiers and increase military pay and health benefits.

Another priority for Murphy in his first term is to secure federal funding for embryonic stem cell research; he calls it a “medical miracle that offers hope to millions of Americans.”

Medicare’s prescription drug program also needs work, he says. He argues that it should be modeled after the Veterans Affairs Department’s drug coverage plan, where the government negotiates drug prices in bulk. This approach would save taxpayers millions of dollars, he says.

Murphy has allied with the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition.

PENNSYLVANIA (10)

Chris Carney, D

Election: Defeated Rep. Don Sherwood, R
Home: Dimock Township
Born: March 2, 1959, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Wife, Jennifer Carney; five children
Education: Cornell College, B.S.S. 1981; U. of Wyoming, M.A. 1983; U. of Nebraska, Ph.D. 1993
Military: Naval Reserve, 1995-present
Career: U.S. Defense Department counterterrorism consultant; professor
Political Highlights: No previous office



Democratic leaders promised Chris Carney a seat on the influential Appropriations Committee, which he hopes to parlay into funding for research and development of alternative energy sources.

“That’s the kind of thing that makes a lot of sense for the future of this country,” said Carney, who waxes enthusiastic about Washington Democratic Rep. Jay Inslee’s “New Apollo Energy Act” to promote clean energy and fuel efficiency, and curb global warming.

Northeastern Pennsylvania is a coal-producing region, and Carney sees emerging clean-coal technology as creating jobs and helping to wean the nation from foreign sources of oil.

Carney also will emphasize national security issues — he once advised the Pentagon on counterterrorism policy and will continue to serve in the Naval Reserve. Carney said his background “really enables me to ask the right questions of the administration” on Iraq and the war against terror.

“I think people with my experience and my background — especially working in some of the highest levels of government on counterterrorism issues — is something that we need in Congress,” Carney said.

Carney would repeal tax cuts for wealthy income-earners and target tax relief toward middle-class families.

A cancer survivor, Carney supports federal funding of embryonic stem cell research.

TENNESSEE (1)

David Davis, R

Election: Defeated Rick Trent, D, to succeed Bill Jenkins, R, who retired
Home: Johnson City
Born: Nov. 6, 1959, Johnson City, Tenn.
Religion: Baptist
Family: Wife, Joyce Davis, two children
Education: Calif. College for Health Sciences, A.S. 1983; Milligan Coll., B.S. 1991
Career: Oxygen therapy clinic owner; medical equipment company owner; respiratory therapist
Political Highlights: Unicoi County Republican Party chairman, 1995-96; sought Republican nomination for U.S. House, 1996; Tenn. House, 1999-present

The election of state Rep. David Davis continues the district's 126-year tradition of sending Republicans to the House.



Davis said he decided to run because of his "strong faith and belief in God. . . I felt like our country was drifting away from the country I grew up in."

Davis holds degrees in respiratory therapy and organizational management, and he has owned two health care businesses.

He says his medical background gives him a unique perspective in a Congress that is dominated by lawyers.

"Being in health care since the late 1970s is something that's going to help set me apart from a lot of people there in Washington," Davis said.

"With the graying of America, this is going to be one of the things we really face moving forward into the future."

One way the country can pare health care costs, Davis says, is by expanding home and community-based care.

As a state legislator, Davis served on the Transportation Committee and also was a delegate to a White House conference on small business.

In the House, he has his eye on the Small Business or Transportation and Infrastructure committees.

Davis was one of 11 candidates, including his predecessor Republican Rep. Bill Jenkins, who vied for this same seat 10 years ago. Davis placed fourth in that race.

TENNESSEE (9)

Stephen I. Cohen, D

Election: Defeated Mark White, R, to succeed Harold Ford, D, who ran for Senate
Home: Memphis
Born: May 24, 1949, Memphis, Tenn.
Religion: Jewish
Family: Single
Education: Vanderbilt U., B.A. 1971; Memphis State U., J.D. 1973
Career: Lawyer
Political Highlights: Nominee for Tenn. House, 1970; Tenn. Constitutional Convention, 1977-78; Shelby County Commission, 1978-80; Co. General Court, 1980, defeated, 1981; Tenn. Senate, 1983-present; ran for governor, 1994, for U.S. House, 1996

Stephen I. Cohen is a rare white candidate taking over a House seat in a black-majority district — the Memphis district represented for 32 years by Harold Ford (1975-97) and his son, Harold E. Ford Jr. The outlook of the office-holder won't change much: Cohen, a Democrat, is a liberal on most issues. He has been affiliated with the civil rights movement and has maintained a good relationship with African-American voters in his state Senate district.



"It's a great challenge and a great opportunity to bring people together in Memphis across racial lines and a great opportunity for America to see that," he said.

Cohen's standing with the African-American community is partly due to his success in persuading the Tennessee legislature to create a state lottery in 2002, with the proceeds funding scholarships.

Cohen says he hopes to continue his work to expand educational opportunities. He says the war in Iraq is draining funding from education and other domestic programs. "We're spending so much money and so much of our resources in Iraq," he said. "Our cities are suffering."

Cohen says he will focus mostly on helping low-income urban residents, whose problems were brought to the fore by Hurricane Katrina last year. He has expressed interest in the Judiciary and Transportation committees.

TEXAS (22)

Nick Lampson, D

Election: Defeated Shelley Sekula Gibbs, R, to succeed Tom DeLay, R, who resigned
Home: Stafford
Born: Feb. 14, 1945, Beaumont, Texas
Religion: Roman Catholic
Family: Wife, Susan; two children
Education: Lamar U., B.S. 1968, M.Ed. 1971
Career: Home health care business owner; teacher; college instructor
Political Highlights: Sought nomination for Texas House, 1970; Jefferson County party chairman, 1972-74; Jefferson Co. tax assessor, 1977-95; Texas Board of Tax Examiners, 1977-83; U.S. House, 1997-2005; defeated for re-election to U.S. House, 2004

Nick Lampson, who lost his seat in the 2004 election, when several Texas districts were redrawn, now represents the district once held by the man who orchestrated his ouster, former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay.



Lampson says he hopes to score a plum spot on the House Appropriations Committee, preferably the subcommittee that oversees NASA, so he can help steer funding for Houston's Johnson Space Center, which is located in his new district.

Lampson is also interested in serving again on the House Transportation and Infrastructure and House Science committees; he was a member of both during his prior tenure (1997-2005). The Science committee oversees NASA.

"Science is a really big deal for me," Lampson said.

Lampson campaigned on issues of fiscal responsibility. When it comes to the debate over appropriations earmarks, he has said they can be vital to a region's progress — but he also says they should be vetted by a committee before being added to spending bills.

He wants Congress to fully implement the recommendations of the Sept. 11 commission and has said he will push to reinvigorate the Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, which he helped found and which received unwanted attention in the wake of the scandal involving former Republican Rep. Mark Foley of Florida.

VERMONT (AL)

Peter Welch, D

Election: Defeated Martha Rainville, R, to succeed Bernard Sanders, I, who ran for Senate

Home: Hartland

Born: May 2, 1947, Springfield, Mass.

Religion: Roman Catholic

Family: Widowed; five children

Education: College of Holy Cross, A.B. 1969; U. of California, Berkeley, J.D. 1973

Career: Lawyer; county public defender

Political Highlights: Vt. Senate, 1981-89 (president pro tempore, 1985-89); nominee for governor, 1990; Vt. Senate, 2002-present (president pro tempore, 2003-present)

Peter Welch says “fiscal responsibility” has been one of his guiding principles as president pro tem of the Vermont Senate, and from his perspective, the Republican Party has not handled the federal government’s finances very well.



Welch says the Bush administration’s tax cuts contributed to deficits and did little to help the middle class. In particular, he wants to reverse the cuts given to large energy producers.

Following the Democratic Party line, Welch also wants to immediately work toward raising the minimum wage. A seat on the Ways and Means Committee is one of his long-term goals.

Like many other Vermonters, Welch is concerned with the environment. He says the nation needs a new energy policy that reduces dependence on foreign oil and encourages the development of renewable energy sources.

Because the economy of his home state relies heavily on agriculture, Welch says he wants the next farm bill to help small family farms compete against larger, corporate operations.

Welch says he was opposed to the Iraq War from the start. He favors a plan that would bring “a majority” of troops home from Iraq in 2007 and “explicit acknowledgement that the U.S. will not maintain permanent military bases” there.

He also favors universal health care for all Americans, and he says Congress should simplify the Medicare prescription drug plan.

WISCONSIN (8)

Steven L. Kagen, D

Election: Defeated John Gard, D, to succeed Mark Green, R, who ran for governor

Home: Appleton

Born: Dec. 12, 1949, Neenah, Wis.

Religion: Jewish

Family: Wife, Gayle Kagen; four children

Education: U. of Wisconsin, B.S. 1972, M.D. 1976

Career: Allergy clinic owner; physician

Political Highlights: No previous office

As a physician, Steven L. Kagen knows how expensive health care can be, and he plans to be a leader in changing that. He vows to introduce his No Patient Left Behind concept, which he says will “guarantee access to everyone, everywhere in the U.S.”



“I want to write the federal standard that covers you from your head to toe,” Kagen said.

Kagen is well-known to patients throughout his district: He founded the Kagen Allergy Clinics and serves as an assistant clinical professor of allergy/immunology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He has also served as an allergy consultant for CNN.

Kagen disapproves of the Bush administration’s handling of the Iraq War. Although he does not favor an immediate withdrawal, he believes that U.S. troops do not belong in Iraq, and he will push for an exit strategy.

Before receiving his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Kagen worked as a Teamster, bagging sugar and whey for Foremost Dairy.

He says he believes that Wisconsin has been under-represented on the House Agriculture Committee and would like to work on farming issues. “I used to work in a dairy, and some of my best friends have cheese companies,” Kagen said. “I understand the needs of agriculture.”

NEW MEMBER OF 109TH CONGRESS

TEXAS (22)

Shelley Sekula Gibbs, R

Pronounced: SEH-coo-lah

Election: Won special election to fill seat of Tom DeLay, R, who resigned

Home: Houston

Born: June 22, 1953, Floresville, Texas

Religion: Roman Catholic

Family: Husband, Robert W. Gibbs Jr.; two children

Education: Our Lady of the Lake College, A.B. 1975; U. of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, M.D. 1979

Career: Physician

Political Highlights: Houston City Council, 2002-present

A dermatologist by profession, Shelley Sekula Gibbs describes herself as a conservative Republican who cites health care as a top priority.



Although Sekula Gibbs lost her write-in campaign for the general election to former Rep. Nick Lampson (p. 58), she won a special election the same day to fill the remainder of Tom DeLay’s term, so she will serve in the lame-duck session of the 109th Congress before Lampson takes over the seat in January.

She says she also will focus on border security and illegal immigration during her short tenure in the remainder of the 109th Congress.

Sekula Gibbs says she is a strong supporter of NASA and the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, which is in her district.

However, Sekula Gibbs said she also wants to “reduce the size of government and cut waste as well as lower taxes.”

She traces her political involvement to high school class presidencies and leadership posts at the Florida Association of Family Practice Residents and the Texas Dermatological Society.

However, Sekula Gibbs did not consider seeking office until her then-husband, Sylvan Rodriguez, a local television anchorman, had to drop his political ambitions when he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Departing Members of the 109th Congress

(Races too close to call at press time Wednesday not included)

House Members Defeated in General Election (19 R, 0 D)

	Elected	Winner
Charles Bass, R-N.H. (2)	1994	Paul W. Hodes
Jeb Bradley, R-N.H. (1)	2002	Carol Shea-Porter
Chris Chocola, R-Ind. (2)	2002	Joe Donnelly
Gil Gutknecht, R-Minn. (1)	1994	Tim Walz
Melissa A. Hart, R-Pa. (4)	2000	Jason Altmire
J.D. Hayworth, R-Ariz. (5)	1994	Harry E. Mitchell
John Hostettler, R-Ind. (8)	1994	Brad Ellsworth
Sue W. Kelly, R-N.Y. (19)	1994	John Hall
Jim Leach, R-Iowa (2)	1976	David Loebsack
Nancy L. Johnson, R-Conn. (5)	1982	Christopher S. Murphy
Anne M. Northup, R-Ky. (3)	1996	John Yarmuth
Richard W. Pombo, R-Calif. (11)	1992	Jerry McNerney
Jim Ryun, R-Kan. (2)	1996	Nancy Boyda
E. Clay Shaw Jr., R-Fla. (22)	1980	Ron Klein
Don Sherwood, R-Pa. (10)	1998	Chris Carney
Mike Sodrel, R-Ind. (9)	2004	Baron P. Hill
John E. Sweeney, R-N.Y. (20)	1998	Kirsten Gillibrand
Charles H. Taylor, R-N.C. (11)	1990	Heath Shuler
Curt Weldon, R-Pa. (7)	1986	Joe Sestak

Senators Defeated in General Election (5 R, 0 D)

	Elected	Winner
Lincoln Chafee, R-R.I.	2000	Sheldon Whitehouse
Mike DeWine, R-Ohio	1994	Sherrod Brown
Rick Santorum, R-Pa.	1994	Bob Casey
Jim Talent, R-Mo.	2002	Claire McCaskill
Conrad Burns, R-Mont.	1988	Jon Tester

Retiring Senators (1 R, 2 D, 1 I)

	Elected
Mark Dayton, D-Minn.	2000
Bill Frist, R-Tenn.	1994
James M. Jeffords, I-Vt.	1988
Paul S. Sarbanes, D-Md.	1976

Defeated in House Primary (1 D, 1 R)

	Winner
Cynthia A. McKinney, D-Ga. (4)	Hank Johnson
Joe Schwarz, R-Mich. (7)	Tim Walberg

Retiring House Members (8 R, 3 D)

	Elected
Michael Bilirakis, R-Fla. (9)	1982
Sherwood Boehlert, R-N.Y. (24)	1982
Lane Evans, D-Ill. (17)	1982
Joel Hefley, R-Colo. (5)	1986
Henry J. Hyde, R-Ill. (6)	1974
Bill Jenkins, R-Tenn. (1)	1996

Member	Elected
Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz. (8)	1984
Major R. Owens, D-N.Y. (11)	1982
Michael G. Oxley, R-Ohio (4)	1981
Martin Olav Sabo, D-Minn. (5)	1978
Bill Thomas, R-Calif. (22)	1978

House Members Who Sought Other Office (9R, 6D, 1I)

Resigned Senator (1 D)

	Effective
Jon Corzine, D-N.J.	Jan. 17, 2006
<i>(Robert Menendez, D, appointed effective Jan. 18, 2006)</i>	

Resigned House Members (6R, 1D)

	Effective
Rob Portman, R-Ohio (2)	April 29, 2005
<i>(Jean Schmidt, R, won Aug. 2, 2005, special election)</i>	
Christopher Cox, R-Calif. (48)	Aug. 2, 2005
<i>(John Campbell, R, won Dec. 6, 2005, special election)</i>	
Randy 'Duke' Cunningham, R-Calif. (50)	Dec. 1, 2005
<i>(Brian P. Bilbray, R, won June 6, 2006, special election)</i>	
Robert Menendez, D-N.J. (13)	Jan. 18, 2006
<i>(Albio Sires won Nov. 7, 2006, special election)</i>	
Tom DeLay, R-Texas (22)	June 9, 2006
<i>(Shelley Sekula Gibbs won Nov. 7, 2006, special election)</i>	
Mark Foley, R-Fla. (16)	Sept. 29, 2006
<i>(No special election scheduled)</i>	
Bob Ney, R-Ohio (18)	Nov. 3, 2006
<i>(No special election scheduled)</i>	

	First Elected	Office Sought/Result
Bob Beauprez, R-Colo. (7)	2002	Governor/Lost
Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio (13)	1992	Senate/Won
Benjamin L. Cardin, D-Md. (3)	1986	Senate/Won
Ed Case, D-Hawaii (2)	2002	Senate/Lost primary to Sen. Daniel K. Akaka
Jim Davis, D-Fla. (11)	1996	Governor/Lost
Harold E. Ford Jr., D-Tenn. (9)	1996	Senate/Lost
Jim Gibbons, R-Nev. (2)	1996	Governor/Won
Mark Green, R-Wis. (8)	1998	Governor/Lost
Katherine Harris, R-Fla. (13)	2002	Senate/Lost
Ernest Istook, R-Okla. (5)	1992	Governor/Lost
Mark Kennedy, R-Minn. (6)	2000	Senate/Lost
Jim Nussle, R-Iowa (1)	1990	Governor/Lost
Tom Osborne, R-Neb. (3)	2000	Governor/Lost primary to Gov. Dave Heineman
C.L.'Butch' Otter, R-Idaho (1)	2000	Governor/Won
Bernard Sanders, I-Vt. (AL)	1990	Senate/Won
Ted Strickland, D-Ohio (6)	1992*	Governor/Won

*Defeated in 1994 general election but was re-elected in 1996 general election.

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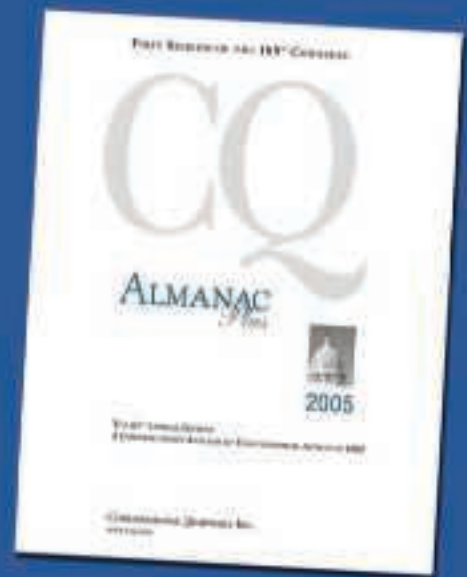
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IMPACT ON HOUSE COMMITTEES

Dingell, Obey, Conyers Among High-Profile Democrats Set to Claim Gavels

By CQ Staff

Back in control of the House after 12 years in the minority, Democrats are eager to use committee gavels to push an agenda that will be generally at odds with President Bush but could offer glimmers of bipartisanship on education and immigration.

Before Election Day, Democratic leaders and most of those now in line to become chairmen were selling a moderate message — more oversight; more bipartisanship; no big, new expensive initiatives — and the voters were buying. It remains to be seen if Speaker-to-be Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., can keep the chairmen on that course.

House Republicans, many of whom have never experienced life in the minority, will not be idle spectators. But House rules will make it difficult for them to be major players, as the Democrats are well aware.

Here is a look at what to expect from House committees in the 110th Congress:

Agriculture

Democrat Collin C. Peterson is the most likely candidate to lead the Agriculture Committee through next year's expected rewrite of the 2002 farm law. The Minnesotan has warmed up to rewriting parts of the law (PL 107-171), even though he has said repeatedly that it would be foolhardy to reauthorize it without waiting for the outcome of the next round of international trade negotiations.

Peterson's initial plan was to seek a simple extension of the 2002 law. He now says some parts are worth revamping. "Farmers like what we did in 2002," he said. "We'd like to maintain the current structure of the bill, but tinker with some of the commodity programs and add a disaster relief title."

Proponents of a rewrite argue that Congress must change some of the Department of Agriculture's commodity programs to comply with World Trade Organization rulings. Several commodity groups — including corn growers and wheat growers — are asking for changes to their programs as well.

One of Peterson's top goals as chairman is to make sure more legislation makes its way through hearings and markups at the subcommittee level. Under Republican rule, subcommittees have not had the opportunity to exert oversight over many measures that have made their way through the full committee.

A Democratic takeover also means changes at the subcommittee level that could affect debate over regional crop issues. Joe Baca, D-Calif., will likely replace the defeated Gil Gutknecht, R-Minn., as chairman of the Department Operations, Oversight, Dairy, Nutrition and Forestry Subcommittee. Baca represents a state where larger dairy farms thrive. Such operations have long fought the Milk Income Loss Contract program because smaller farmers — like those in the Midwest — get a bigger chunk of the subsidies.

Growers of specialty crops — such as nuts, lettuce and apples — are asking for more block grants and changes to the nutrition program that could cost billions. But those growers lost an advocate on the committee: Richard W. Pombo, R-Calif., who was defeated by Democrat Jerry McNerney.

— Catharine Richert

Appropriations

David R. Obey of Wisconsin, the incoming chairman, is expected to aggressively seek to boost funding for domestic discretionary programs. In his 12 years as the committee's ranking Democrat, Obey has fought to add funding for education, medical research, Community Development Block Grants and veterans' medical care, as well as for border security.

In Obey's one-year stint as Appropriations Committee chairman in 1994, he reached an agreement with the ranking Republican on the committee's 302(b) allocations, which led to enactment of all 13 individual spending bills. Repeating that performance in 2007 could prove next to impossible. Obey likely will run into several obstacles in his attempt to increase funding for Democratic priorities. In recent years, his proposals to boost such spending have been paired with tax increases for individuals earning more than \$1 million annually. Those were non-starters for Republicans and will remain so as long as President Bush is in the White House.

Earmarks likely will receive some new scrutiny this year. Obey supported a Democratic proposal to require that members declare if they stand to benefit personally from any earmarks they are seeking, which is part of a broad lobbying package that Democrats vowed to pass.

Obey also may seek to revise the panel's subcommittee jurisdictions. Former Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, led a panel reorganization that reduced the number of subcommittees to 10 from 13 at the start of the 109th Congress. The Senate reduced its subcommittees to 12, creating a mismatch.

A prime candidate for revision is the House subcommittee funding the Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development departments, in addition to District of Columbia appropriations. Appropriators view that panel as too unwieldy. One option would be to move the State Department to the House Foreign Operations Subcommittee, to match the Senate. The House now includes State in the subcommittee funding the Commerce and Justice departments and science programs.

Obey, the ranking Democrat on the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee, might have to give up the chairmanship of that panel; when California Republican Jerry Lewis took over as chairman, he relinquished the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee gavel.

Most of the ranking Democrats are expected to become cardinals of their subcommittees in the 110th Congress.

But Martin Olav Sabo of Minnesota, the ranking Democrat on the Homeland Security Subcommittee, is retiring. A top candidate to replace Sabo is David E. Price of North Carolina, who ranks just below Sabo in seniority on the panel.

If Democratic Whip Steny H. Hoyer of Maryland fails to win election as House Majority Leader and is not in the leadership, he could return from his leave of absence as the highest-ranking member of the Transportation-Treasury-HUD-Judiciary-D.C. Subcommittee, displacing John W. Olver of Massachusetts, the current ranking Democrat on the panel.

John P. Murtha of Pennsylvania, the ranking Democrat on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, has said he intends to

challenge Hoyer for majority leader. If Murtha won, that could allow Norm Dicks of Washington, No. 2 on the Defense Subcommittee, to become its chairman. Dicks is currently the top Democrat on the Interior Subcommittee. If he shifted to Defense, second-ranking James P. Moran of Virginia could take over Interior.

GOP appropriators took a beating, with Interior Subcommittee Chairman Charles H. Taylor of North Carolina the highest ranking to lose.

— **Liriel Higa**

Armed Services

Oversight hearings into the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan will be a top priority of the House Armed Services Committee led by Ike Skelton, D-Mo. The veteran lawmaker will establish a new subcommittee devoted to oversight and investigations.

Democrats are likely to push for a timetable to begin withdrawing troops from Iraq; more liberal members could even push for an immediate withdrawal.

Skelton said more attention will be given to operating in Afghanistan, where he said a “forgotten war” is being waged. “You should not confuse the two conflicts, the one in Afghanistan and the one in Iraq,” Skelton added.

Lawmakers will also examine concerns raised by Army generals that repeated deployments of Army troops to Iraq and Afghanistan are hurting the service’s readiness. One congressional aide said there will probably be another bipartisan push to increase spending on the Army. Another Democratic priority will be improving pay and benefits for military personnel.

Weapons spending is unlikely to change significantly, although Democrats might limit spending on missile defense to parts of the system that have already proved successful in tests.

Democrats are expected to follow seniority rules in determining subcommittee chairmanships. Among those who could take a gavel are Gene Taylor, D-Miss.; Solomon P. Ortiz, D-Texas; Neil Abercrombie, D-Hawaii; Vic Snyder, D-Ark.; and Martin T. Meehan, D-Mass. Senior members John M. Spratt Jr., D-S.C., and Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas, could pass up subcommittee assignments to head other full committees.

Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., who has served as chairman of the panel for the past two Congresses, has announced he is weighing a run for the White House in 2008, a move that would provide him a better platform for countering criticism of the Iraq War than he will have merely as ranking Republican on the committee.

Curt Weldon of Pennsylvania, the No. 2 Republican on the panel, will not return after losing his bid for an 11th term.

— **George Cahlink**

Budget

The Budget Committee will have some of the most important changes in the 110th Congress with the Democratic takeover, because of its role in setting the overall discretionary spending cap and in writing budget rules. The Committee is expected to be chaired by John M. Spratt Jr. of South Carolina, who has set a moderate tone as the ranking Democrat on the panel.

Spratt has repeatedly urged a budget summit between both parties and President Bush to discuss ways to slow the rising federal

debt, to no avail. He also has urged a combination of spending restraints and a rollback of Bush’s tax cuts, but has been rebuffed.

Democrats have proposed rule changes that the panel will likely consider as part of a budget overhaul package, including a return to pay-as-you-go rules requiring tax cuts and new entitlement spending to be offset so they do not add to the deficit. Those rules were eviscerated by Republicans as a prelude to passing Bush’s tax cut packages in 2001 and 2003, the Medicare drug law in 2003 and smaller tax cut packages.

Democrats also want to see tougher rules that would require the government to account for long-term costs when it calculates annual deficits. Changes in earmark rules also could receive consideration through the fiscal 2008 budget resolution or in a budget overhaul package.

With the defeat of Republican Jim Ryun of Kansas, Ander Crenshaw of Florida is expected to become the ranking Republican.

— **Steven T. Dennis**

Education and the Workforce

With California Democrat George Miller expected to take over as chairman, Democrats will be able to push some of their top legislative priorities through the committee.

While the biggest challenge awaiting the panel is reauthorization of the 2001 education law known as No Child Left Behind (PL 107-110), the renewal could turn into a long-term project.

Miller, a close ally of the likely new House Speaker, fellow Californian Nancy Pelosi, will go to work early next year on legislation to increase the federal minimum wage to \$7.25 over two years and to cut student loan interest rates by half.

The committee is also likely to approve legislation increasing the maximum Pell grant — the main federal student aid program — from \$4,050 to \$5,100. Student loan programs were renewed as part of last year’s budget reconciliation law (PL 109-171), but other student aid programs under the Higher Education Act (PL 89-329) are set to expire in June.

Congress and President Bush enacted a short-term reauthorization (PL 109-292) of federal student aid programs, including Pell grants and Perkins loans, in 2006. But Democrats held up a longer-term reauthorization because they wanted student loan terms and interest rates on the table.

Funding will be a key issue in the No Child Left Behind reauthorization. Miller helped write the law in 2001 and supports the majority of its provisions.

But Democrats have bemoaned the appropriation levels for the program. While the law authorizes expenditures of \$20 billion annually, the average annual appropriation has been \$12 billion, according to committee aides.

Miller has a good working relationship with the committee’s outgoing chairman, Howard P. “Buck” McKeon of California, who is expected to remain the top-ranking Republican on the panel.

The retirement of New York Democrat Major R. Owens leaves the chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, which oversees wages and other labor issues, up in the air.

Dennis J. Kucinich of Ohio is next in line, but it was not clear if he would instead pursue other committee leadership openings.

— **Libby George**

House Committees continued on page 67

NEW HOUSE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

A Diverse Crowd of Likely Committee Leaders

After a dozen years of a Democratic minority, all but three of the chairmen to be selected by presumptive Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California will be

getting their first shot at wielding the gavel of a full committee. Some spots are still up in the air, with Intelligence the most hotly contested.

**HOUSE ADMINISTRATION**

Juanita Millender-McDonald, California

Millender-McDonald spends much of her time looking to ensure federal money makes its way to her Los Angeles-area district, which is among her state's poorest. She did not make waves in her one term as the ranking Democrat on the committee, getting along well with former Chairman Bob Ney, R-Ohio. Millender-McDonald has expressed

concern in the past about the electronic voting machines that were promoted by a 2002 election-law package known as the Help America Vote Act, and she is certain to look into any allegations of voting irregularities from the 2006 election.

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Tom Lantos, California

A Hungarian-born Holocaust survivor, Lantos has served 13 terms and is widely respected on both sides of the aisle. As a former member of the anti-Nazi underground and anti-communist student movement who left his homeland for the United States in 1947, he takes a hard line on national security. Lantos' support for the Iraq War

was instrumental in winning Democratic approval of the invasion in Congress. He worked closely with retiring Republican Chairman Henry J. Hyde of Illinois but will tackle the administration on its diplomatic style, close alliances with Arab states and global environmental policies.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Barney Frank, Massachusetts

Equal parts brusque and jocular, Frank should be a commanding presence as chairman of the Financial Services panel. Combining one of Congress' keenest intellects and a firm grasp of House rules and procedures, Frank is known as an effective lawmaker who enjoys the give and take of the legislative process. Though he's well-known for biting

one-liners, Frank always has shown an interest and ability to work across party lines on financial issues. His pet issue for the committee is housing, with a stated goal of increasing the funding and scope of federal affordable housing programs.

**SCIENCE**

Bart Gordon, Tennessee

Gordon, as a former ranking member of the panel, is the Democrats' likely choice for the gavel. Though Gordon is conservative in other areas, his reliably pro-labor stance has, in part, led him to clash with the administration in the past over funding for NASA. Gordon has criticized the administration for "cannibalizing" other NASA

programs — which has sometimes resulted in workforce reductions — to pay for its ambitious plan to return humans to the moon in preparation for a mission to Mars.

**GOVERNMENT REFORM**

Henry A. Waxman, California

Brainy and dogged, Waxman was among the change-oriented post-Watergate freshmen who eventually seized control of their party from conservative Southern power brokers. At well under six feet tall, bespectacled and bald, Waxman does not cut an imposing figure — unless you happen to be seated at the witness table, where his

questioning style can be brutal. For years he has played David to Goliaths like the tobacco, pharmaceutical and energy industries on Government Reform, as well as the Energy and Commerce Committee, where he is in line to succeed John D. Dingell, D-Mich., as chairman someday.

**SMALL BUSINESS**

Nydia M. Velázquez, New York

The Puerto Rican-born Velázquez has been the panel's ranking Democrat since 1998. She generally has worked well with members across the aisle, including outgoing Chairman Donald Manzullo of Illinois.

But the New York City Democrat has proven no pushover, leading opposition this year to Manzullo's version of legislation to reauthorize the Small Business Administration. Usually a solid Democratic vote, Velázquez has parted ways in the past with party leaders on health care, a high-profile issue the committee is sure to focus on in the 110th Congress.

**HOMELAND SECURITY**

Bennie Thompson, Mississippi

Thompson is a political veteran who first held elected office at age 20 and is known in Congress as a tireless fighter on civil rights issues. But when Thompson became the committee's top Democrat in 2005, he assumed a role that had little to do with his poor and rural district. Like other veterans of the civil rights movement, Thompson is not afraid to

shake things up. Upon ascending to the ranking position, he dismissed three staff members. He earlier had complained about the lack of minority staff on the panel, and he never has been reluctant to excoriate his own party for taking African-American support for granted.

**VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

Bob Filner, California

Filner became the committee's acting ranking Democrat in May 2006 to replace Lane Evans of Illinois, who has Parkinson's disease. While the appointment made Filner the heir apparent for the chairmanship, Michael H. Michaud of Maine plans to challenge him. Both Filner and Michaud have promised a new focus on veterans returning from

Iraq and Afghanistan, with plans to increase GI Bill benefits. Michaud will likely face an uphill fight against the outspoken Filner, a former college professor known for his scathing criticism of outgoing Chairman Steve Buyer, R-Ind.

**AGRICULTURE****Collin C. Peterson, Minnesota**

One of the most conservative Democrats in the House, Peterson brings something of a renegade mentality to the chairmanship. Throughout his House career, he has bucked the party line more than a third of the time on floor votes, and he is a founding member of the Blue Dog Coalition, which argues for a leaner federal

government.

Although Peterson is otherwise a budget hawk, he supports government farm subsidies in agriculture-dependent regions, and he says that when it comes time to revisit the 2002 farm law next year, he will not try to cut current payments to farmers. On trade-related issues, he tends to follow the preferences of organized labor and says Congress should simply extend the 2002 law if global trade negotiations continue to remain deadlocked. An avid sportsman, like many of his fellow Minnesotans, he opposes gun control and draws high marks from the National Rifle Association.

**BUDGET****John M. Spratt Jr., South Carolina**

Ranking Democrat John M. Spratt Jr. is expected to take over the Budget Committee gavel. Spratt, a moderate from South Carolina, has repeatedly called for a bipartisan budget summit with Republicans and President Bush, but his entreaties have been dismissed. He cites his involvement in the 1997 budget deal between the GOP-run

Congress and President Bill Clinton as one of the signal achievements of his more than two decades on Capitol Hill.

Spratt, 64, will be entering his 13th term and serves as a folksy and moderate counterpoint to expected House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California. Spratt will have to balance tensions within his caucus between liberals who demand funds to finance new spending on education, health care and other programs, and more moderate elements that want to focus first on continuing to reduce the budget deficit.

**APPROPRIATIONS****David R. Obey, Wisconsin**

The pugnacious Obey chaired the Appropriations Committee once before, in 1994. In that year, the panel passed each spending bill individually. Obey is a staunch believer in parliamentary procedure and has used all the tools available to him to speed action on measures he supports and slow those he opposes. As the ranking Democrat on the panel, he

cooperated with GOP members in getting the spending bills approved in the panel, but never hesitated to voice criticism with their spending priorities. Obey also has excoriated GOP leaders for adding provisions to appropriations conference reports after conferees have reached an agreement, such as the vaccine immunity provision added by Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., to the must-pass fiscal 2006 Defense Appropriations conference report. He has what he calls a "civil and decent" relationship with Jerry Lewis, the House Appropriations Committee chairman in the 109th Congress, who is expected to stay on as the ranking member, although they are not particularly close.

**EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE****George Miller, California**

Miller, a fiery liberal and close ally of House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., spent most of the past 12 years in pitched battles with Republicans over issues ranging from unemployment benefits to the environment. Not one to let any colleague off the hook, Miller reprimands even his own party members when he believes they are making too

many concessions to the GOP. Since joining the committee as the ranking Democrat in 2001, however, Miller has worked effectively with the Republican chairmen, most recently Howard P. "Buck" McKeon of California. Miller helped write the 2001 No Child Left Behind law (PL 107-110), which he will now work to reauthorize, and will continue the congenial relationship with his Republican committee counterparts. But the ardent idealist has plenty of fight left in him for his main priorities, including raising the minimum wage and securing increased funding for No Child Left Behind and other education programs.

**ARMED SERVICES****Ike Skelton, Missouri**

The mild-mannered Skelton has never before chaired the defense panel, but the 16-term lawmaker is widely viewed as a leading congressional voice on military matters. Skelton, 74, initially supported the war in Iraq but recently came out in favor of phased withdrawal of troops. Skelton

warned before the war that more troops might be needed and chastised the Bush administration for not sending more forces to initially stabilize Iraq. Skelton, whose rural Missouri district was the birthplace of President Harry S. Truman and is home to two large military bases, has long backed larger defense budgets and improved pay and benefits for military personnel. Skelton has two sons serving in the military but never served himself because of childhood polio that crippled his arms. He considers Truman, a friend of his father's whom he met as child, his political hero and keeps a framed telegraph in his office that his father sent to the president, congratulating him for firing Army Gen. Douglas MacArthur in April 1951.

**ENERGY AND COMMERCE****John D. Dingell, Michigan**

Dingell returns to the chairmanship with plenty of institutional memory and a resolve to make up for 12 years of lost time under GOP rule. The longest-serving member in the House, Dingell firmly established his reputation as a shrewd politician and power broker as chairman of the committee from 1981 through 1994.

He believes in strong congressional oversight and has roundly criticized his Republican colleagues for what he considers the neglect of their duties in favor of partisan politics. Still rankled by Republicans' decision to scale back the committee's jurisdiction several years ago, Dingell has suggested he wants to bring insurance and securities back into its sphere of influence. Dingell is a leading Democrat on social policies such as universal health care. As a longtime supporter of the auto manufacturers, he differs with his Democratic colleagues on issues such as corporate average fuel efficiency standards — but he is not one to shy away from the debate.



Harman

INTELLIGENCE

Jane Harman, California; Alcee L. Hastings, Florida; or Silvestre Reyes, Texas

With no clear answer from Democratic leaders on who will chair the House Intelligence Committee, discussion has focused on the panel's top three Democrats.

Harman, who is widely respected in the national security community for her grasp of the issues, has an abrasive style that has irritated likely House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California and diminished her chances of taking the committee's gavel.

Hastings, behind Harman in committee seniority, is the most liberal, but he often couples his passionate, partisan committee speeches with quips that draw laughter from across the aisle. The moderate Reyes has been hailed by some of his backers as a "compromise candidate" who could bridge the gulf between Blue Dogs who favor Harman and the Congressional Black Caucus, which prefers Hastings.



Hastings



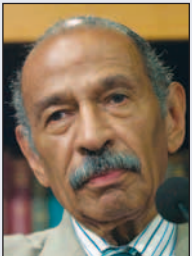
Reyes

**RULES**

Louise M. Slaughter, New York

The daughter of a coal miner from Harlan County, Ky., Slaughter's bluegrass twang does not match her Rochester- and Buffalo-based district. But her unabashedly liberal politics do. She won election to the House in 1986 after campaigning shoulder-to-shoulder with Hollywood actor Richard Gere, who shared her distaste for the Reagan administration's support of Nicaraguan contras battling the Marxist Sandinista government.

Along with Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., Slaughter has assailed Republicans for their management of the Rules Committee, and they have said they would allow Republicans more opportunities to amend legislation on the floor than they have been afforded by the GOP. Slaughter is a former bacteriologist who has spent much of her time on health care and science issues, particularly those that affect women. As chairwoman of the Rules Committee, she will be an important ally to Pelosi, who is expected to become Speaker.

**JUDICIARY**

John Conyers Jr., Michigan

Conyers came to Congress in 1964 as an activist rebel schooled in the civil rights movement. He gained attention early in his congressional career for symbolic campaigns for Speaker of the House. He earned bipartisan praise for leading the investigation that led to the impeachment of federal judge Alcee L. Hastings, who subsequently joined Conyers in the House. During the 109th Congress, his reports on exercises of executive authority by President Bush were seen as laying the groundwork for another potential impeachment.

Conyers has said he will emphasize oversight rather than impeachment, but Republicans are not yet persuaded. The Judiciary Committee would be the second chairmanship for Conyers, who headed the Government Operations Committee for six years prior to the Republican takeover of Congress in 1994. He is expected to delegate more authority to subcommittee chairmen than did outgoing Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner Jr., R-Wis.

**TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

James L. Oberstar, Minnesota

A policy wonk who has made transportation the focus of his legislative career, Oberstar got his start in the 1960s as a chief aide to his mentor and fellow Minnesotan John A. Blatnik (1947-74), who served as chairman of what was then called the Public Works and Transportation Committee. Oberstar has served as the panel's ranking

Democrat for more than a decade and believes strongly that the federal government should provide generous financial support to meet the nation's transportation and infrastructure needs; he was instrumental in bailing out the airline industry in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

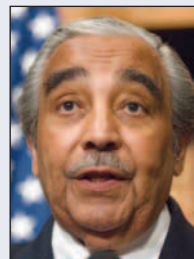
Although he strays from the more liberal wing of the Democratic party on some social issues, Oberstar is a fierce ally of unions and likely will make environmental protection a higher priority for the committee, the jurisdiction of which extends to certain water resources and environmental issues.

**RESOURCES**

Nick J. Rahall II, West Virginia

Representing a mining district in the heart of coal country, Rahall will have to balance the interests of his constituency with the concerns of the environmental community, which has received increasing support from him in recent years. As a social conservative, he sometimes finds himself at odds with the Democratic leadership, but his seniority — he has spent almost 30 years in Congress, more than half his life — gives him power in a caucus that rewards experience.

Rahall probably will try to move energy and mining bills that can win approval from liberal committee Democrats as well as the panel's Republicans. In some cases, however, he is likely to reject bipartisanship and stick to the traditional Democratic line, backing legislation that has the support of labor unions and opposing measures to expand energy exploration in environmentally sensitive areas such as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

**WAYS AND MEANS**

Charles B. Rangel, New York

The 76-year-old Rangel is a shrewd partisan from Harlem who wrestled repeatedly with Chairman Bill Thomas, R-Calif., when serving as ranking member of the committee. First elected in 1970, Rangel is known for his clever wit and raspy voice. An unapologetic but pragmatic liberal, Rangel says he wants to calm the partisan acrimony on the panel, but his often-fiery rhetoric and vocal disdain for the Bush administration have shown no signs of abating. One way he hopes to bring the two sides closer together is to move first on measures both parties can agree to, before tackling more controversial issues such as a tax-code overhaul or a restructuring of Social Security. While he has tangled with Thomas, he has developed a friendly working relationship with Charles E. Grassley of Iowa, the top Republican on the Senate Finance Committee. If Montana Democrat Max Baucus takes the Finance gavel, cooperation between the committees should improve even more.

Democrats Consider Changing Rules for the House and Their Caucus

With the Democrats now in charge of dictating the rules of the House, significant changes could be in store for the chamber as well as within the Democratic Caucus.

A caucus panel is reviewing a long list of possible changes, including a ban on privately funded travel and a requirement that conferences on legislation be open to the public. The proposals are laid out in a 29-page document created by the Democratic Organizational Study and Review Committee. Other possible changes being considered include creating an independent entity to consider ethics charges against House members.

Democrats also are mulling over changes to the way they operate as a House caucus. For instance, unlike the Republicans, the Democrats currently have no term limits for their committee leaders, and seniority plays a key role in determining rank on a panel. But all that could change in the new Congress.

The caucus discussion document says "seniority may be considered" when making nominations for committee assignments, but the Committee on Assignments "need not necessarily follow seniority." Term limits for committee leaders also are under consideration, senior Democratic aides said, but no decisions have been made.

Democrats and Republicans are likely to wait until December or January to decide on committee lineups. But both parties are scheduled to elect leaders and conduct other internal business beginning next week, when the 109th Congress reconvenes for a lame-duck session. Democrats plan to elect new leaders Nov. 16. On Wednesday, Republicans postponed their leadership elections from Nov. 15 to Nov. 17.

So far, no dates have been set for either party to approve the rules for their respective caucuses.

Democratic Guidelines

Under current rules, the Democratic Steering Committee nominates members to committee slots and for committee assignments, with input from the Democratic leader. Those choices are subject to approval by the Democratic Caucus. If the caucus rejects a nominee, the Steering Committee submits another nominee.

If the Steering panel does not nominate the most senior committee member, that person can run against the panel's choice before the full caucus. Ranking subcommittee positions are not necessarily based on full-committee seniority. Ranking status is given by the Steering panel. If the most senior is not chosen, that member can run for the spot in a vote before the full caucus, too.

The current Democratic rules limit members to one ranking

slot on a committee or subcommittee, although House Administration, ethics and joint committee slots do not count.

The party's House leader appoints all Democratic members of the Intelligence Committee and the ethics panel, known formally as the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. The leader also nominates all members of the Rules and House Administration committees, subject to caucus approval.

Democratic Caucus rules govern Steering Committee nominations to the Appropriations and Ways and Means committees.

Democrats group committees into three categories — exclusive, major and non-major. Exclusive panels include Appropriations, Rules, Ways and Means, and Energy and Commerce.

Republican Guidelines

Republican leaders refused to speculate before the election on what changes, if any, they would attempt to make to caucus rules if they failed to maintain control of the chamber.

As things stand now, members of the Republican Steering Committee, some named by the leadership and others chosen by regional caucuses, make most full committee assignments, which are then subject to approval by the full Republican Conference.

If the conference rejects a nominee, the Steering Committee presents a second choice. In the 109th Congress, subcommittee assignments were generally doled out by GOP committee chairmen based on full-committee seniority.

The exceptions to Steering Committee appointments in the 109th were House Administration, Rules, Intelligence and ethics. Those positions were appointed by the Speaker of the House.

Republicans also imposed term limits on committee chairmen. They were not allowed to serve more than three consecutive two-year terms.

Republican rules designate four exclusive committees: Appropriations, Energy and Commerce, Rules, and Ways and Means. Generally, Republicans assigned to any of those panels may not serve on another standing committee. There are exceptions, however, spelled out in current House rules. For instance, the Budget Committee must include members from the Ways and Means and Appropriations panels. And the Intelligence Committee must have some members who also sit on Appropriations.

Republican members also are barred from serving on more than two non-exclusive panels, again with the exception of House Administration, Intelligence and ethics.

— Susan Ferrechio

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Energy and Commerce

Having chaired the powerful committee from 1981 until Republicans took control in 1994, Michigan Democrat John D. Dingell will return to his post next year with a long list of issues that he says have gone unaddressed under Republican leadership.

He also would like to restore the committee's jurisdiction over insurance and securities, although few expect Democratic leadership to support such a move. Republicans transferred those issues

to the newly created Financial Services Committee in 2001, and Dingell feels that was the wrong move.

"Our expertise [on insurance and securities] is still the best in Congress," Dingell said.

The energy industry can look forward to a substantive debate over climate policy in the House as well as the possibility of price-gouging legislation stronger than what Republicans passed (HR 5253) this year. Dingell also said he would "drive hard" for a 137-page energy bill introduced in the 109th Congress by Democrat

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House committees *continued from page 67*

Steny H. Hoyer of Maryland. Among other things, the bill (HR 5965) calls for a national commission on energy security, a "New Manhattan Center for High Efficiency Vehicles" modeled after the Manhattan Project, the program that developed the atomic bomb in World War II, and increased investment in infrastructure for biofuels.

The bill does not include a strict requirement to boost fuel efficiency standards for automobiles, a traditionally Democratic issue that Dingell has long opposed on behalf of domestic auto manufacturers in his state.

The interests of auto companies also will come into play if Democrats take up global warming legislation, given that the transportation sector accounts for about a third of the nation's carbon dioxide emissions. Dingell said climate legislation would get a hearing but declined to take a stance on the issue, saying he has "always been one who wanted to know the facts first."

Dingell cited problems with federal environmental cleanup programs, including "brownfields" and superfund as well as leaking underground storage tanks. "They are not properly funded. They are not properly enforced," he said.

He also said he would consider health insurance initiatives for single parents and small businesses while keeping an eye on mounting health costs that are dragging down American automobile manufacturers. He plans to revive old calls for a patients' bill of rights and pursue legislation authorizing the Health and Human Services Department to negotiate for lower prescription drug prices.

On the telecommunications front, Dingell aims to "fix flaws" in the bill (HR 5252) passed this year by the House on which the Senate has not acted. The bill would promote competition for cable TV companies by streamlining existing video franchising rules to make it easier for big telephone companies to enter markets. In particular, Dingell wants to shore up the Universal Service Fund, a fee-based program that subsidizes service to rural communities. Democrats also generally favor "net neutrality" provisions that would require phone and cable companies to treat similar types of Internet traffic equally.

— **Jeff Tollefson**

Financial Services

Housing issues will be front and center for the Financial Services Committee in the 110th Congress with Barney Frank, D-Mass., becoming the panel's new chairman.

Frank, the longtime ranking Democrat on the committee, is known for his acerbic tongue, encyclopedic knowledge of House rules and procedures, and pragmatism on financial matters. Though he is a leading voice for liberal Democrats, Frank's ascension to the panel chair does not create great concern among business groups, who consider him knowledgeable and fair when it comes to free market principles.

"Congressman Frank has been very good to the financial services sector overall," one banking lobbyist said. "He's got terrific staff, an open-door policy and he's open-minded."

That said, protecting consumers and investors from alleged corporate abuses is expected to be a focus for the panel. He has been outspoken in criticizing what he considers excessive compensation packages for corporate executives. Frank also is expected to work with Republicans in moving legislation to crack down on predato-

ry lending that the panel has been working on for more than a year.

Under Democratic control, the committee is likely to focus intently on boosting affordable-housing programs. And if Congress does not enact legislation in the lame-duck session to revamp regulation of mortgage finance giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the issue will likely be on the agenda again, with Democrats pushing to make sure affordable housing provisions are included.

The committee is also expected to address the question of whether to allow retailers such as Wal-Mart and Home Depot to establish their own banking operations. Members on both sides of the aisle have opposed Wal-Mart's application and are likely to push legislation if regulators give Wal-Mart the go-ahead.

The panel also will need to decide whether to extend or make permanent the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act, which provides a federal backstop to the insurance industry in case of massive damages caused by terrorism. The current program extension (PL 107-297) is set to expire at the end of 2007.

Frank also wants Congress to take a bigger role in economic policy. He said he wants to create some sort of panel to focus on macroeconomic issues, with the goal of helping make sure economic growth benefits all U.S. citizens.

The panel's new ranking GOP member is expected to be Richard H. Baker of Louisiana or Alabama's Spencer Bachus. A shakeup among House GOP leaders could result in other candidates, however, including current Rules Committee Chairman David Dreier.

Jim Leach of Iowa, formerly chairman of the House Banking Committee, and New York's Sue W. Kelly — currently the panel's vice chair — head the list of GOP panel members who lost their re-election bids.

— **Michael R. Crittenden**

Government Reform

With broad jurisdiction to oversee the Bush administration, Government Reform will be among the most-watched panels in the new Congress. Presumptive Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., is likely to funnel as many Democratic investigations as possible through the committee, which will be chaired by a strong ally, fellow California Democrat Henry A. Waxman.

While in the minority, Waxman hounded the White House on Iraq contracting, the recovery from hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Vice President Dick Cheney's energy task force, and alleged irregularities at the polls. In the majority, Waxman will have the authority to determine the direction and focus of committee oversight in all those areas and others.

The majority is certain to have more seats to fill on the committee, both because of the greater margin that comes with institutional control and because it is losing two of its current members: Major R. Owens, D-N.Y., who is retiring, and Bernard Sanders, I-Vt., who was elected to the Senate. Republicans will lose slots on the panel, but there may be few tears shed. The committee is regarded as something of a backwater, and there usually is significant turnover in membership between Congresses.

On the legislative side, Waxman may continue to pursue committee goals left over from the 109th Congress, such as a postal overhaul, lobbying legislation and a bill (HR 5388) that would give the nation's capital a vote in the House by establishing new seats in a 437-member House that would go to the Democratic-run District and to Republican-heavy Utah.

— **Jonathan Allen**

Homeland Security

With Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., at the helm, the Homeland Security Committee will place a greater focus on oversight. Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff has testified before the committee twice in 2006 — an attendance record Thompson often criticized.

Thompson is expected to tackle rail and mass transit security, which Democrats have pointed to as a vulnerability since the Madrid train bombings of March 2004. While the port security bill enacted in October (PL 109-347) did not contain rail and mass transit security funding authorizations, the Senate-passed version of the bill included about \$4.5 billion for that purpose. Thompson will probably try to pass stand-alone rail language.

He also might try to strengthen the role of state and local law enforcement in domestic intelligence efforts.

"We are long overdue in providing police and sheriffs' officers with the basic information they need to take on the critical homeland security role that the 9/11 commission and others have identified for them," Thompson said in a statement.

Democratic aides said Thompson might try to pass an authorization bill for the Homeland Security Department. The committee approved two such bills in the 109th Congress (HR 1817, HR 5814), but the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee never took up a similar bill.

Implementation of the remaining recommendations of the 9/11 commission — a staple of Democratic campaign talking points — will be a top priority for incoming Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., but the Homeland Security Committee will not mark up that legislation, aides said. Instead, it will probably go directly to the floor during the first 100 hours of the new Congress, as promised by Pelosi. According to a Pelosi aide, changes in the bill could include restructuring of congressional committees that would probably give the Homeland Security panel more exclusive jurisdiction over homeland security and anti-terrorism issues.

— Patrick Yoest

House Administration

Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., can be expected to place a strong ally in position to chair the Committee on House Administration, which has broad power over House perquisites such as office space, a valuable tool to reward friends and punish enemies. Juanita Millender-McDonald, a fellow Californian who has been serving as the top Democrat on the panel, is likely to chair the panel.

Democrats should add seats to go along with those currently held by Millender-McDonald, Robert A. Brady of Pennsylvania and Zoe Lofgren of California, and top party leaders can be expected to add allies to the quiet but influential panel.

Republicans will probably have to cut their membership from six to three, a task made easier by the departure of Rep. Bob Ney, R-Ohio, who recently pleaded guilty in a federal bribery probe.

The committee will more than likely be the way station for legislation aimed at altering the federal law (PL 107-252) enacted following the 2000 presidential election. The electronic voting sys-



As chairman of the Government Reform Committee, Davis has had a good relationship with Democrats.

tems spawned by that law have not been the salve envisioned by its authors. The panel also will be busy with preparations for opening the Capitol Visitor Center, which is currently scheduled for completion in mid-September. It also will oversee issues involving the security of the Capitol complex and the transition in administration of the Capitol Police under Chief Phillip D. Morse Sr.

— Jonathan Allen

Intelligence

Before Democrats can begin pondering what kind of oversight they will conduct on the House Intelligence Committee, they first have to settle the most wide-open chairmanship battle in Congress.

Jane Harman of California has held the spot of top Democrat since 2003. But Harman and fellow Californian Nancy Pelosi, the likely House Speaker, do not get along. What is more, Harman is more conservative on national security issues than Pelosi.

Additionally, Pelosi in 2003 passed over a black Democrat in line for the job, Sanford D. Bishop Jr. of Georgia, because Pelosi had promised the spot to Harman as part of an effort to recruit her back to Congress. That move angered the Congressional Black Caucus, which has made it clear that its members will not be happy if the black Democrat now behind Harman, Alcee L. Hastings of Florida, does not get the spot in 2007. Hastings said last year that Pelosi told him he would replace Harman.

But Hastings' history worries other Democrats. As a federal judge, Hastings was impeached in 1988 on a bribery charge, and his appointment could draw criticism. That has led some Democrats to propose appointing Silvestre Reyes of Texas, third in committee seniority, as a "compromise" candidate. He is moderate and Latino, but the Congressional Black Caucus has not backed down from its advocacy for Hastings.

Pelosi has avoided hinting who will get the job, and points out that she could appoint someone who is not on the panel.

Harman appears to be the least likely to win the post. While she voted for the 2001 anti-terrorism law (PL 107-56) known as the Patriot Act and its reauthorization in 2006 (PL 109-177), some observers note that her stances shifted to the left as she struggled to keep her committee assignment. The liberal Hastings has trumpeted the causes of civil liberties and minority representation in the intelligence community. He is a critic of the Patriot Act and the NSA's warrantless surveillance program, and argues that diversity would help intelligence agencies better understand the information they collect. Reyes, with his background as a former border patrol agent, has focused on border security and its role in protecting the nation. Like Hastings, Reyes talks about the need for more diversity in the intelligence community and information sharing between intelligence agencies.

No matter who chairs the committee, Democrats are certain to increase scrutiny of the administration's intelligence efforts.

There could be more fundamental changes afoot, if Pelosi lives up to her campaign pledge to enact all of the Sept. 11 commission's

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recommendations. Among them is a call for the Intelligence Committees to have both appropriations and authorization power.

— **Tim Starks**

International Relations

A Democratic majority in the House will mean a change of emphasis for its foreign policy panel, with the widely respected Hungarian-born Holocaust survivor Tom Lantos of California likely to take the committee gavel.

Popular among his committee colleagues, Lantos enjoyed a warm working relationship with retiring chairman Henry J. Hyde, R-Ill., and was a vigorous supporter of President Bush over the Iraq invasion, prompting criticism from some Democrats.

Many of the themes Lantos will espouse were addressed under Hyde. But Democrats are guaranteed to take a sharper look at the Bush administration's foreign policy performance.

Within the first three months, Lantos promises to put Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in the hot seat during a series of oversight hearings into waste, fraud and abuse he says have riddled the reconstruction of Iraq. Similarly, Lantos wants to take on reconstruction in Afghanistan in hearings that will also examine the resurgence of the Taliban.

Lantos plans to hold hearings on Iran and its proxies, Hezbollah, Hamas and Shiite groups in Iraq. In this respect the committee's work will probably find Republican support, with Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Florida likely to be the ranking Republican member.

But they differ on the need for dialogue. "There is no doubt in my mind that the administration is fundamentally mistaken in its refusal to talk to these countries," Lantos said.

— **Elaine Monaghan**

Judiciary

Perhaps the most significant impact of the Democratic takeover of the Judiciary Committee will be what will disappear from the agenda.

There will be no more constitutional amendments about gay marriage and flag burning, no more proposals to strip federal courts' jurisdiction over social issues such as the Pledge of Allegiance, and no more bills to impose new mandatory minimum prison sentences. And trial lawyers will probably be pleased to see business-backed efforts to overhaul the civil justice system fall off the agenda.

Instead, Democrats are likely to emphasize oversight of the Bush administration's exercises of executive power, particularly the National Security Agency's warrantless surveillance program. Democrats also pledge to take a look at more traditional Justice Department operations, including the FBI's long-delayed effort to implement a new computer system.

Administration officials, including Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales, will almost certainly be hauled before the committee more often. Democrats also are likely to revisit a law (PL 109-366) governing the interrogation and trial of terrorist detainees. In particular, Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., says Democrats will seek to re-examine provisions of the law that bar detainees from filing habeas corpus challenges to their detentions.

What's less likely is any push for impeachment of President Bush. Presumptive Chairman John Conyers Jr., D-Mich., says Democrats will be pragmatic rather than inflammatory. "What I'm think-

ing about is how we can get ourselves in preparation for '08," Conyers said.

It is unclear how Democrats will handle immigration. They could opt to bring up a version of legislation (S 2611) the Senate passed in the 109th Congress, or block it altogether in order to avoid handing Bush a victory as his term winds down.

Committee aides and lobbyists expect Conyers to delegate more responsibility to his subcommittee chairs than did F. James Sensenbrenner Jr., R-Wis., whose tenure would have ended because of GOP term limits regardless of the election outcome.

— **Seth Stern**

Resources

A West Virginia Democrat, Nick J. Rahall II, will take the reins of a panel ruled for a dozen years by Republicans determined to protect and advance private property rights. His agenda will probably be a dramatic departure from that of outgoing Chairman Richard W. Pombo, a California rancher who has fought to loosen environmental laws that circumscribe those rights. Before Pombo, the panel was chaired by Republican Don Young of Alaska, whose views are largely in line with Pombo's.

Pombo, who lost his re-election bid to business executive Jerry McNerney, tried repeatedly to rewrite the Endangered Species Act (PL 93-205), which directs federal agencies to conserve threatened species and prohibits industrial actions that could harm endangered wildlife. Critics contend the law has failed, and Pombo has fought to loosen its mandates. But his efforts were thwarted by staunch opposition from environmentalists. Rahall argues that more money is needed for federal agencies to fulfill their responsibilities under the law, but he does not favor a complete overhaul.

Likewise, Pombo and other critics of the National Environmental Policy Act (PL 91-90), which requires federal agencies to assess and minimize environmental impacts of major projects, have characterized that law as burdensome and antiquated. Rahall, however, says the law might need some "tinkering around the edges" but generally has been effective.

The committee is also likely to head in a different direction on energy policy. Pombo advocated boosting production of fossil fuels on public lands, including in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and offshore. Rahall fought those efforts. From a coal-producing state, Rahall probably will seek to advance clean-coal technology. He also has said he will push legislation that would redirect fees paid by coal companies to cover health care costs of some retired miners and to speed the cleanup of abandoned mine sites.

Pombo's loss means that H. James Saxton of New Jersey is next in line in terms of seniority to become the committee's ranking Republican.

— **Manu Raju**

Rules Committee

After chafing under a dominant Republican majority, Democrats will get their first chance in a dozen years to establish the ground rules for House operations and floor debate.

Since the days of Speaker Sam Rayburn, D-Texas (1913-1961), who recentralized rule-making authority, the Rules Committee increasingly has been an arm of the Speaker, with the chairman taking cues — or direct orders — from a Speaker who appointed him. Accordingly, presumptive Rules Chairman Louise M. Slaughter, D-N.Y., is likely to be guided by the Speaker's office.

The first rules challenge for Democrats may be living up to the standards they pined for when they were in the minority.

Presumptive-Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., proposed a “minority bill of rights” in 2004, calling for the out-of-power party to get one-third of committee budgets and office space; for lawmakers to have 24 hours to review legislation before a subcommittee markup and the same amount of time before a House floor vote; for votes to be limited to 15 minutes and not extended for the purpose of altering the outcome; and for allowing minority-party bills to be considered on the expedited “suspension calendar” in proportion to the minority party’s representation in the House.

A year later, the minority leader promised that in the event of a change of control, a Democratic-run House would provide more opportunities for amendments to be considered on the floor and that the Rules Committee would report more “open” rules that do not limit the number or nature of amendments.

Democrats will see a major expansion in their representation on the panel, where they were outnumbered 9-4 in the minority. In addition to Alcee L. Hastings, D-Fla., Jim McGovern, D-Mass., and Doris Matsui, D-Calif., who already serve on the committee, Pelosi might seek to reward loyalists from various caucuses within the party by appointing them to the panel.

Republicans must decide who to cut. Chairman David Dreier of California would like to stay on as ranking Republican, but that depends on support from the minority leader. If Republicans cut from the bottom in terms of seniority and have only four seats in the minority, Lincoln Diaz-Balart, R-Fla., Doc Hastings, R-Wash., and Pete Sessions, R-Texas, would stay on the panel.

— Jonathan Allen

Science

The likely choice for the chairmanship is Bart Gordon of Tennessee, who as ranking Democrat often took aim at the administration’s science priorities, including funding for NASA.

A Gordon-led Science Committee could clash with the Bush administration over plans to return humans to the moon in preparation for a future mission to Mars. Though Gordon has supported the plan in general, he has sharply criticized the administration’s spending blueprint for shifting money away from NASA’s aeronautics and science programs to fund exploration.

With Gordon in charge, the committee probably will examine America’s global science competitiveness and the outsourcing of technical jobs. He also might propose initiatives on alternative fuels, energy efficiency and combating the spread of methamphetamine production.

Ralph M. Hall of Texas is likely to be the ranking Republican in the 110th Congress.

— Kathryn A. Wolfe



U.S. Seabees, a naval construction force, repair a damaged bridge in Fallujah. Democrats have pledged to investigate the reconstruction effort in Iraq.

U.S. NAVY/STPA PRESS FILE PHOTO / JOHN P. CURTIS

Small Business

As the minority party in the 109th Congress, Democrats on the Small Business Committee complained that their priorities were frequently ignored by Chairman Donald Manzullo, R-Ill. They won’t have that problem in the 110th Congress.

The new chairwoman is expected to be Nydia M. Velázquez of New York, and a health insurance overhaul for small businesses will be one of Velázquez’s priorities.

Velázquez would like the panel to address tax code overhaul — though with this and other high-profile matters, including health

care, the committee’s jurisdiction often leaves it with a relatively small role in writing legislation.

Other Democratic priorities include reducing the regulatory burdens on small business, permitting venture capital investment in firms with grants from the SBA’s Small Business Innovation Research Program, and increasing federal contracting opportunities for entrepreneurs, said Velázquez spokeswoman Kate Davis.

The stalled SBA reauthorization measure (HR 5352) will likely be the panel’s first legislative business.

— Victoria McGrane

Standards of Official Conduct

At least seven of the 10 members of the evenly divided ethics committee, known formally as the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, are eligible to serve in the 110th Congress. But it is a rare member who chooses to stay on the panel that enforces House rules for the three-term maximum (four terms for chairmen).

The current ranking Democrat, Howard L. Berman of California, would normally become chairman since the Democrats have taken over Congress. But Berman, who took over as the top Democrat earlier this year after Alan B. Mollohan, D-W.Va., had to step aside because of questions concerning his finances and earmarks to his district, has said he does not want to remain on the panel. So the Democrats might have to choose a new chairman.

The Republican and Democratic leaders typically choose an ethics committee chairman, ranking member and new committee members in January, after the start of a new Congress.

The current chairman, Doc Hastings, R-Wash., has completed his third term on the panel and could be replaced. Republican and Democratic leaders have also made no decisions on who might fill the seats that will be left vacant by Reps. Judy Biggert, R-Ill., and Stephanie Tubbs Jones, D-Ohio. Both women have concluded three terms on the panel.

— Susan Ferrechio

Transportation and Infrastructure

The wait is over for Minnesota’s James L. Oberstar. After serving for more than a decade as ranking Democrat on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Oberstar will al-

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most certainly have his chance to chair the panel when Democrats assume control of the House in January.

First elected to Congress in 1974, Oberstar has made transportation a primary focus throughout his legislative career, having served as a top aide to what was then called the Public Works and Transportation Committee before being elected in his own right.

At the top of the committee's agenda at the start of the 110th Congress will be reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration, which the committee takes on every four years. Facing a Democratic-controlled committee, newly minted Transportation Secretary Mary E. Peters could have her work cut out for her when she attempts to sell the Bush administration's yet-to-be released plan for restructuring the FAA's funding system.

The FAA is expected to ask Congress to take aviation spending off budget as part of a sweeping overhaul that would fund the agency through user fees paid by airlines and general aviation, rather than the current mix of appropriated funds, fuel taxes and passenger ticket taxes.

In addition to an FAA reauthorization and preparations for the next highway bill, the panel probably will consider pipeline safety legislation and a new water resources bill if Congress does not act on those issues this year. Amtrak overhaul efforts, transportation security issues and annual Coast Guard reauthorization legislation also are on the committee's agenda for the next two years.

The Transportation panel has traditionally worked across party lines to forge compromises. Aides from both parties said they expect that pattern to continue under Oberstar, especially if the chairman of the past six years, Don Young of Alaska, stays on as the panel's ranking Republican, a likely scenario.

Assuming Democrats do not alter the subcommittee structure and that they adhere to a seniority-based system, three African-American women are in line to take over subcommittee chairmanships: Corrine Brown of Florida on the Railroads Subcommittee; Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas on the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee; and District of Columbia Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton on the Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management Subcommittee. Peter A. DeFazio of Oregon now serves as ranking Democrat on the Highways, Transit and Pipelines Subcommittee and is the prime candidate to lead that panel. Jerry F. Costello, D-Ill., will probably chair the Aviation Subcommittee.

— **Kathleen Hunter**

Veterans Affairs

Democrats take over the Veterans Affairs Committee with the hope of ending two years of growing acrimony between the committee and veterans' service organizations, but they will first have to endure an internecine battle.

The committee's ranking Democrat, Lane Evans of Illinois, handed over his day-to-day duties to Californian Bob Filner in May because of Evans' battle with Parkinson's disease. Filner is the next most senior Democrat on the committee, but Michael H. Michaud of Maine has said that he will challenge Filner for the chairmanship. Filner and Michaud hold similar policy positions, but Michaud says he would bring a softer touch than the bombastic Filner.

For veterans' groups, either of the two would be a welcome replacement for Steve Buyer, R-Ind., the current chairman. Buyer,

who enjoyed close ties with Republican leaders, quickly alienated veterans' organizations, such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion, by changing the format of annual legislative hearings for the organizations and pushing for higher medical enrollment fees for some veterans.

Now, Democrats plan to work more closely with the groups than Buyer did. No matter who wins the chairmanship, Democrats on the committee are expected to pursue improvements in GI Bill education benefits for reservists and National Guard veterans and to keep pace with rising college tuition.

The No. 2 Republican on the committee, Michael Bilirakis of Florida, retired. But the veteran-rich state will still be amply represented, with four other Floridians likely to return to the panel.

— **Patrick Yoest**

Ways and Means

After 36 years in the House, Charles B. Rangel is finally getting his chance to wield the Ways and Means gavel. And at age 76, he isn't likely to waste time before making things happen.

But Rangel may have to seek a relatively modest agenda because of political and practical realities. Many of the Democrats elected on Nov. 7 are moderates and could be favorably inclined toward tax cuts. Practically, the \$248 billion fiscal 2006 deficit and Democratic spending plans may tie the new chairman's hands.

Rangel will chair a dramatically altered committee because some of its veteran GOP members — including second-ranking panel Republican E. Clay Shaw Jr. of Florida and third-ranking Nancy L. Johnson of Connecticut — lost their re-election bids. Republican panel members J.D. Hayworth of Arizona, Melissa A. Hart of Pennsylvania and Chris Chocola of Indiana also were defeated.

Rangel intends to initially push an agenda on which Republicans and Democrats can agree. Rangel plans to hold a series of retreats with members and staff off Capitol Hill to rebuild friendly working relationships between Democrats and Republicans.

Rangel hopes to find common ground with Republicans on issues the committee can quickly address, such as making permanent the research-and-development tax credit and closing the "tax gap" between what is collected by the IRS and what is owed. He also says an expansion of the earned income tax credit for low-income wage earners should be considered.

Rangel brushed aside GOP campaign charges that he would seek to eliminate Bush's 2001 and 2003 tax cuts. Instead, he has noted that none of those cuts expire until 2010.

Rangel is ready to tackle one section of the tax code: the increasing reach of the alternative minimum tax (AMT), which hits more middle-class taxpayers each year. Instead of passing one-year patches to blunt its effects, Rangel wants to seek a permanent change that could cost the government as much as \$1 trillion over 10 years. Rangel has suggested he might try to offset the cost of such a move by restricting or eliminating foreign tax shelters used by some businesses. But Republicans are skeptical that it won't take a tax increase to pay for changes to the AMT.

On trade, Rangel is not categorically against renewing fast-track trade negotiating authority for the president, which expires in July 2007. But he talks of increasing "congressional authority," which could be a non-starter with the administration. And he wants the full committee, rather than the Trade Subcommittee, to be involved in major trade decisions.

— **Rachel Van Dongen**

IMPACT ON SENATE COMMITTEES

With Senate Control Up in the Air, So Is Election's Impact on Committees

If final election results hand Democrats control of the Senate in the 110th Congress, their bare majority would give them only a one-seat edge on committees. But that is enough to run the show.

In the 109th Congress, Republicans, with 55 Senate seats, have held a two-seat advantage on most committees. Party ratios on committees are subject to negotiation between the majority and minority, so it could be weeks before committee rosters are set.

Most Senate panels will have to shrink by one seat or grow by one to end up with an odd number of members. The specifics will be worked out by the party leaders.



Tom Harkin



Saxby Chambliss

Agriculture

If Democrats control the Senate, they will have the upper hand in crafting a new farm bill next year to update the law enacted in 2002.

Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, who would take over the committee gavel from Sax-

by Chambliss, R-Ga., is more interested than Chambliss in trying to strike a balance between competing demands from commodity groups that want continued government subsidies and environmentalists who want more money for conservation and renewable energy incentives.

In Harkin's Iowa, corn and soy production rule, and he says he supports continued commodity crop subsidies. At the same time, Harkin is the creator of the Conservation Security Program in the 2002 law (PL 107-171), which pays farmers for following specific land and water conservation practices. And he is a champion of incentives for greater production of corn ethanol and other biofuels.

Whoever runs the committee in the 110th Congress will be pressed to set priorities within tight overall funding parameters. Lawmakers are not expecting the new farm bill's price tag to be any more than the \$248.6 billion enacted in 2002, and critics say that more funding for ethanol production and conservation programs would require deep cuts to corn, wheat, soybean and rice commodity programs.

A money grab is likely even if commodity and environmental interests can be balanced. There will be new crop groups in the mix next year. In particular, speciality-crop growers are asking for more block grants and changes to nutrition programs that could cost billions. Dairy farmers also are likely to fight for a program that compensates dairy producers when the price of milk drops.

Democrats also can expect the usual tug-of-war between farm-state senators who support stronger land conservation efforts and urban-area liberals who want more money for school lunches and low-income food programs.

The panel, like its House counterpart, is being barraged by requests for an extension of the subsidies in the 2002 law rather than a total overhaul of them. A World Trade Organization (WTO) court ruled in 2005 that the so-called "Step Two" component of the U.S. cotton program violated trade rules. Congress may be forced to shrink payments under all commodity

programs to avoid similar lawsuits.

Further complicating matters, the Doha round of WTO talks failed earlier this year. Other nations want the United States to shrink government payments. In return, White House and Congress are pushing U.S. trading partners to reduce agricultural tariffs.

Mark Dayton, D-Minn., is retiring at the end of this Congress. Jim Talent, R-Mo., and Rick Santorum, R-Pa., were defeated. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., Talent's successor, could seek a spot on the panel. Jon Tester, D-Mont., who edged GOP Sen. Conrad Burns, is also interested in a slot.

— Catharine Richert



Robert C. Byrd



Thad Cochran

Appropriations

Congressional Democrats view the appropriations process as their best opportunity to reorder federal priorities. And funding is likely to be boosted somewhat for domestic programs and homeland security.

No matter how hard Democrats push to increase discretionary spending on their favored programs, however, their running room will be circumscribed by President Bush, who can wield his veto pen. And as Republicans learned from President Clinton, the White House wins if standoffs over spending lead to a government shutdown. Democrats won't take that risk.

If final election results rescue Republicans from a loss of control, they will take Bush's proposed budget caps into account in crafting their annual spending bills. The big battles would then occur on the Senate floor and in conference with the House.

Democrats are wary of being labeled as "reckless spenders." They also do not want to be accused of scrimping on national security spending. To date, the war in Iraq has been funded largely through emergency supplemental spending bills, which do not count against annual discretionary spending targets. But the fiscal 2007 defense authorization law (PL 109-364) requires that the president request funds for "ongoing" operations in Iraq and Afghanistan in the regular budget process starting in fiscal 2008.

Still, emergency supplemental spending requests are unlikely to end. Appropriators may still find it convenient to advance funding in supplemental measures for purposes that are not true "emergencies."

Incoming House Appropriations Chairman David R. Obey, D-Wis., will push for timely completion of all the appropriations bills. The last time that Congress cleared every spending bill separately by the Oct. 1 start of a fiscal year was in 1994, which also was the last time Obey chaired the House committee. His Senate partner then — and next year, if Democrats prevail — was Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va.

Even if current Chairman Thad Cochran, R-Miss., retains the Senate gavel, the bills are likely to move more smoothly. Both of the top Senate leaders — Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and Harry

Senate Committees continued on page 74

Committee Ratios Could Be First Fight for Leaders of the New Senate

If Democrat Jim Webb retains his slim lead over incumbent Republican George Allen in Virginia, Democrats will take over the gavels at every Senate committee — and with them, the power to conduct aggressive oversight of the Bush administration.

Majority status also would give Democrats more staff to work with and put more office space and committee funding under Democratic control.

But if a recount pushes Allen ahead and leaves the Senate effectively divided 50-50, all bets are off. Both parties are girding for a fight over committee resources if the Senate ends up evenly divided, as it was following the 2000 elections. Democrats say the power-sharing agreement hammered out then would be the obvious template, but Republicans disagree. “Of course they want that,” said a GOP aide. “We got rolled.”

The 2001 pact negotiated by Trent Lott, R-Miss., and Tom Daschle, D-S.D., the party leaders at the time, gave Republicans all committee gavels, in recognition that Vice President Dick Cheney held the tie-breaking vote in the full Senate. But committee seats, staffing and budgets were evenly divided.

Party leaders will need to make a deal that both majority and minority can live with for two years, or until a membership change alters the balance. The Senate’s organizing resolution for the 110th Congress, which will set committee ratios and budgets, will be subject to a filibuster unless both parties are on board. Until that resolution is adopted, it will be almost impossible for the Senate to do business.

Despite the uncertainty Wednesday about the election outcome, both parties plan to caucus next week to elect leaders, vote on any proposed party rules changes and plan for the new Congress. Democrats intend to gather Nov. 14, while Republicans set their meeting for Nov. 15.

“As of right now, they are not delayed,” said Don Stewart, spokesman for Majority Whip Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., who will be the Senate Republican leader in the next Congress.

After those sessions, McConnell and Harry Reid of Nevada, the Democratic leader, will bargain over partisan ratios on Senate committees and the allocation of committee staff and funds.

“We would definitely look to past precedents,” said Reid spokesman Jim Manley.

Committee Seats and Resources

Republicans hold 55 seats in the current Senate to the Democrats’ 44. There is one independent, the retiring James M. Jeffords of Vermont, who aligns with Democrats. The GOP holds a two-seat advantage on most Senate committees.

If Webb prevails, Democrats will control 51 seats, counting Bernard

Sanders of Vermont, an independent who organizes with Democrats. In the 108th Congress, Republicans held a one-seat edge on committees when they controlled the Senate by a 51-49 margin.

Senate rules set the size of each committee, but Reid and McConnell can adjust the numbers up or down by as many as two seats per panel.

To achieve a one-seat advantage for the majority party, McConnell and Reid would have to reduce or enlarge the size of almost all committees. Some of them, including the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, are already two seats beyond the rules, and thus would need to shrink.

Republicans now get 60 percent of committee funds and office space, a proportion negotiated in a bruising battle at the start of the 108th Congress in 2003. The fight over committee funding that year kept the Senate at a near-standstill longer than any other similar negotiation in the past decade — until Jan. 15.

Under Senate rules, the minority party is guaranteed at least one-third of committee funds. Any larger share must be negotiated.

Until the 107th Congress (2001-03), Senate chairmen and ranking minority members set their own funding ratios. In 1993, for example, when Democrats held a 57-43 majority, the Finance Committee split funding 67 percent to 33 percent, while Armed Services opted for a 61 percent to 39 percent ratio and Select Intelligence divvied up funds 54 percent to 46 percent.

As the parties battled for Senate seats, little time was spent considering potential rules changes, leadership sources said. “I would not expect major rule changes, or dramatic attempts to reinvent the wheel when the caucus meets,” said one GOP leadership aide.

Republicans impose six-year term limits on their chairmen and ranking members. Democrats do not.

Senate committees are divided into “A” committees and “B” committees, with senators generally limited to service on no more than two “A” committees. But leaders can waive that rule. Two years ago, Republicans gave waivers to members of the Intelligence Committee — which had just become an “A” committee — so its members could remain on up to two other A-level committees.

The other “A” committees are: Agriculture; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; Commerce, Science and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Finance; Foreign Relations; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; and Judiciary.

“B” committees include: Budget; Ethics; Indian Affairs; Rules and Administration; Select Aging; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans’ Affairs.

— Daphne Retter

Senate Committees *continued from page 73*

Reid, D-Nev. — are senior appropriators.

It’s unclear whether the next Senate chairman will seek to alter the structure and jurisdiction of the subcommittees. At the start of the 109th Congress, then-House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, forced a restructuring of the House Appropriations Committee, cutting its subcommittees from 13 to 10. The Senate re-

luctantly pared its panels to 12, but a jurisdictional mismatch has complicated the conferencing of some spending bills.

The mismatches include the Senate bill funding the Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development departments. Senators are finding the measure unwieldy, and to make matters worse, the District of Columbia appropriations bill is usually added to it on the floor to make it easier to conference with the House, which includes that bill in its version.

Appropriators also might try to resolve a jurisdictional mismatch involving the the State Department by moving it to the House Foreign Operations Subcommittee to match the Senate's lineup. The House now funds State in the same bill as the Commerce, Justice and Science departments.

Another misalignment is Defense health funding. The House includes defense health in its Military Quality of Life-VA subcommittee, while the Senate funds it in the Defense Subcommittee.

Most Democrats now serving as ranking members of an Appropriations subcommittee would likely chair those panels next year, assuming that their party has the majority. But the gavel will probably be up for grabs at the Energy and Water Subcommittee. Reid, now ranking Democrat, would most likely give up the chairmanship if he becomes Senate majority leader. That could lead to other shifts. And it would allow Tim Johnson, D-S.D., to chair a subcommittee — probably one of the lesser panels. He is the only Democrat not currently serving as a ranking member.

No one on the committee is retiring. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, and Conrad Burns, R-Mont., were defeated. Burns currently chairs the Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Reid has promised Jon Tester, D-Mont., a seat on the committee "as soon as possible," according to Tester's office. But two incumbents are already in line — Jack Reed, D-R.I., who was bumped when the GOP regained control in 2003, and Frank R. Lautenberg, D-N.J., who was the senior member of the Transportation-Treasury Appropriations Subcommittee when he initially retired at the end of 2000. (He ran and won again two years later.)

— **Liriel Higa**



Carl Levin

John McCain

Armed Services

Carl Levin, D-Mich., poised to reclaim the gavel he held from mid-2001 to 2003, is likely to be a dogged adversary of President Bush — not just on Iraq, but also on issues ranging from troop levels

to procurement practices.

Armed Services could be a prime arena for 2008 presidential politicking. John McCain, R-Ariz., the new ranking minority member, is the front-runner for the GOP nomination. But he will be competing for attention with Democratic front-runner Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York. Evan Bayh, D-Ind., another possible 2008 contender, also serves on the panel.

Levin said Nov. 8 that he hopes confirmation hearings and a Senate vote can be held during the lame-duck session on Robert M. Gates, Bush's nominee to succeed Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld. Levin said he would not prejudge Gates' nomination.

Levin voted in October 2002 against the resolution authorizing force in Iraq (PL 107-243), saying it constituted "blank check" approval of a unilateral operation. He has charged that the administration manipulated intelligence about Iraq to justify the war.

Levin remains a war critic, but he does not advocate an immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces. He has said the United States should begin withdrawing its troops to pressure Iraqis to take on their own defense, but he has not endorsed a deadline for finishing that job.

The Defense Department and White House have repeatedly re-

sisted Levin's requests for information about the war and other matters. He held up several administration nominees over access to documents pertaining to how a Pentagon intelligence cell helped shape the case for war in Iraq. Aides predict Levin may try as chairman to force the White House, under threat of subpoena if necessary, to turn over papers and electronic records.

Both Levin and McCain advocate increasing the size of the Army and Marine Corps to reduce the need for repeated deployments. Both want increased funding to replace and improve equipment used in Iraq and Afghanistan. And both are skeptical of producing weapons before independent testing is completed, though Levin has been more critical of the missile defense system than McCain.

The two want to protect taxpayers from contracting schemes that result in unnecessary spending on weapons programs. And both want to address ongoing war costs in the regular Pentagon budget, limiting "emergency" supplemental spending measures to unpredictable costs.

Mark Dayton, D-Minn., is retiring. Jim Talent, R-Mo., was defeated.

— **John M. Donnelly**



Christopher J. Dodd

Richard C. Shelby

Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs

Christopher J. Dodd, D-Conn., poised to take the gavel from current Chairman Richard C. Shelby, R-Ala., is a Democratic loyalist, but he is unlikely to upset the committee's pattern of bipartisan cooperation.

Indeed, where ranking Democrat Paul S. Sarbanes of Maryland, who is retiring, was often suspicious of attempts to roll back financial regulations because of the potential effects on consumers, Dodd is likely to be more sympathetic to financial industry concerns. The insurance industry is powerful in Connecticut, and many Wall Street executives call the state home.

The Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (TRIA), which provides a federal terrorism insurance backstop, was extended with some changes in 2005 (PL 107-297). It is set to expire at the end of 2007, and business, insurance and real estate groups are lobbying to make it permanent. Shelby has sided with the White House in arguing that the federal safety net inhibits development of market solutions to cover terrorism risks. Democrats may be more sympathetic to keeping it in place.

Legislation to overhaul regulation of mortgage finance giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac also is likely to be on the agenda again if it does not clear in the lame-duck session. Republicans want to toughen regulation of the enterprises and rein in their investment portfolios. Democrats will put more emphasis on spurring the companies to increase affordable housing.

The panel will continue its review of the 2002 Sarbanes-Oxley Act (PL 107-204), the landmark corporate governance law that many business groups say is stifling the capital markets. Any move to revise it is unlikely to gain much traction.

Other agenda issues include improving standards for security of private financial information and spelling out procedures for companies to follow when they accidentally lose financial data. The panel also may address whether there is a need for an optional fed-

Senate Committees *continued on page 78*

110th Congress: Statistically Speaking

A comparatively large turnover in Congress this year will add a lot of new faces to Washington come January. The freshman classes of the Senate and the House in the 110th Congress will consist of more than 60 people combined, shifting the demographics of both chambers in

several categories. Both the House and Senate will have more women than the 109th Congress did, but fewer veterans, for example. Elections that remained undecided at press time are not counted here, unless both candidates fall into the same demographic category.



Minnesota Democrat Keith Ellison is the first Muslim elected to Congress.



Sen.-elect Jon Tester joins Gov. Brian Schweitzer to give Montana two Democratic officials who work in agriculture.

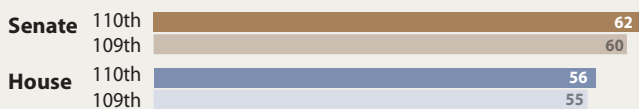


Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., will help boost the number of women in the Senate to 16.

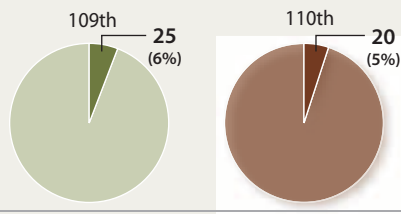
FROM LEFT: NEWS.COM / REUTERS / ERIC MILLER; GETTY IMAGES / JUSTIN SULLIVAN; GETTY IMAGES / SCOTT OLSON

House and Senate Demographics

Average age



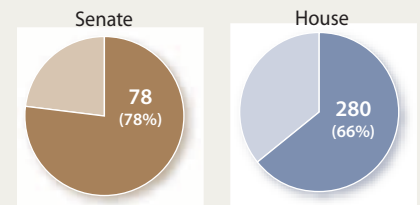
House members under the age of 40



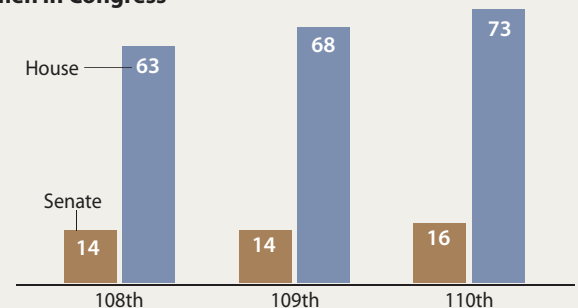
Those with military service



Members with advanced degrees



Women in Congress



House and Senate Occupations

SENATE	108th	109th	110th
Law	59	58	58
Public service / politics	30	32	31
Business	25	30	27
Education	12	12	14
Journalism	6	7	7
Agriculture	5	5	6
Labor / blue collar	2	3	3
Medicine / doctor	3	4	3
Real estate	2	3	3
Artistic / creative	0	0	2
Military	1	1	2
Engineering	1	1	1
Professional sports	1	1	1

HOUSE	108th	109th	110th
Public service / politics	143	163	171
Business	163	162	162
Law	160	160	158
Education	88	86	86
Real estate	30	38	35
Agriculture	25	28	23
Medicine / doctor	16	15	13
Labor / blue collar	6	8	12
Law enforcement	9	9	9
Secretarial / clerical	4	4	9
Health care	5	6	8
Journalism	10	10	7

	108th	109th	110th
Homemaker / domestic	4	4	6
Science	2	6	5
Military	3	3	4
Actor / entertainment	2	3	3
Clergy	2	3	3
Engineering	8	4	3
Miscellaneous	4	3	2
Technical / skilled labor	0	3	2
Aeronautics	2	2	1
Artistic / creative	2	2	1
Professional sports	1	1	1

Minorities in the 110th Congress

BLACK

SENATE (1; no change from 109th Congress)

Illinois: Barack Obama, D

HOUSE (42; no change from 109th Congress)

Alabama: Artur Davis, D

California: Barbara Lee, D; Juanita Millender-McDonald, D; Maxine Waters, D; Diane Watson, D

District of Columbia: Eleanor Holmes Norton, D (delegate)

Florida: Corrine Brown, D; Alcee L. Hastings, D; Kendrick B. Meek, D; Sanford D. Bishop Jr., D

Georgia: Hank Johnson, D; John Lewis, D; David Scott, D

Illinois: Danny K. Davis, D; Jesse L. Jackson Jr., D; Bobby L. Rush, D

Indiana: Julia Carson, D

Louisiana: Dec. 9 runoff*

Maryland: Elijah E. Cummings, D; Albert R. Wynn, D; John Conyers Jr., D

Michigan: Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, D

Minnesota: Keith Ellison, D

Mississippi: Bennie Thompson, D

Missouri: William Lacy Clay, D; Emanuel Cleaver II, D

New Jersey: Donald M. Payne, D

New York: Yvette D. Clarke, D; Gregory W. Meeks, D; Charles B. Rangel, D; Edolphus Towns, D

North Carolina: G.K. Butterfield, D; Melvin Watt, D

Ohio: Stephanie Tubbs Jones, D

Pennsylvania: Chaka Fattah, D

South Carolina: James E. Clyburn, D

Texas: Al Green, D; Sheila Jackson-Lee, D; Eddie Bernice Johnson, D

Virgin Islands: Donna M.C. Christensen, D (delegate)

Virginia: Robert C. Scott, D

Wisconsin: Gwen Moore, D

* Both candidates in the LA-02 December runoff are black and so the winner has been included in the numbers above.

HISPANIC

SENATE (3; one more than in 109th)*

Colorado: Ken Salazar, D

Florida: Mel Martinez, R

New Jersey: Robert Menendez, D

HOUSE (24; no change from 109th)*

Arizona: Ed Pastor, D; Raul M. Grijalva, D

California: Xavier Becerra, D; Lucille Roybal-Allard, D; Loretta Sanchez, D; Grace F. Napolitano, D; Joe Baca, D; Linda T. Sanchez, D; Hilda L. Solis, D

Colorado: John Salazar, D

Florida: Lincoln Diaz-Balart, R; Mario Diaz-Balart, R; Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R

Illinois: Luis V. Gutierrez, D

New Jersey: Albio Sires, D

New York: Jose E. Serrano, D; Nydia M. Velazquez, D;

Puerto Rico: Luis Fortuno, R (delegate)

Texas: Silvestre Reyes, D; Ruben Hinojosa, D; Solomon P. Ortiz, D; Charlie Gonzalez, D; Henry Cuellar, D

* As of press time Wednesday, the TX-23 race had gone to a December runoff, but will result in a Hispanic winner and so it has been included in the numbers above; NM-01 is too close to call and so any possible Hispanic winner is not included in the calculations above.

AMERICAN INDIAN

HOUSE (1; no change from 109th)

Oklahoma: Tom Cole, R

ASIAN

SENATE (2; no change from 109th)

Hawaii: Daniel K. Akaka, D; Daniel K. Inouye, D

HOUSE (5; one more than in 109th)

American Samoa: Eni F.H. Faleomavaega, D (delegate)

California: Michael M. Honda, D; Doris Matsui, D

Hawaii: Mazie Hirono, D

Oregon: David Wu, D

ASIAN INDIAN

HOUSE (1; no change from 109th)

Louisiana: Bobby Jindal, R

Religions in the 110th

SENATE	COUNT
Roman Catholic	25
Jewish	13
Methodist	12
Episcopalian	10
Presbyterian	10
Baptist	7
Protestant - Unspecified	7
United Church of Christ and Congregationalist	6
Mormon	5
Lutheran	3
Eastern Orthodox	1
Unitarian	1

HOUSE	COUNT
Roman Catholic	126
Baptist	57
Methodist	50
Protestant - Unspecified	40
Presbyterian	32
Jewish	30
Episcopalian	26
Lutheran	15
Mormon	10
Unspecified	6
Christian Scientist	5
Eastern Orthodox	5
Pentecostal	4
African Methodist Episcopal	3
United Church of Christ and Congregationalist	3
Buddhist	2
Christian Reformed Church	2
Seventh-day Adventist	2
Christian Church	1
Community of Christ	1
Disciples of Christ	1
Muslim	1
Quaker	1
Unitarian	1

Figures do not include any candidates in races too close to call.

Women in the 110th

HOUSE (73; five more than in 109th)*

Arizona: Gabrielle Giffords, D

California: Mary Bono, R; Lois Capps, D; Susan A. Davis, D; Anna G. Eshoo, D; Jane Harman, D; Barbara Lee, D; Zoe Lofgren, D; Doris Matsui, D; Juanita Millender-McDonald, D; Grace F. Napolitano, D; Nancy Pelosi, D; Lucille Roybal-Allard, D; Linda T. Sanchez, D; Loretta Sanchez, D; Hilda L. Solis, D; Ellen O. Tauscher, D; Maxine Waters, D; Diane Watson, D; Lynn Woolsey, D

Colorado: Diana DeGette, D; Marilyn Musgrave, R

Connecticut: Rosa DeLauro, D

District of Columbia: Eleanor Holmes Norton, D (delegate)

Florida: Corrine Brown, D; Ginny Brown-Waite, R; Kathy Castor, D; Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R; Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, D

Guam: Madeleine Z. Bordallo, D (delegate)

Hawaii: Mazie K. Hirono, D

Illinois: Melissa Bean, D; Judy Biggert, R; Jan Schakowsky, D

Indiana: Julia Carson, D

Kansas: Nancy Boyda, D

Michigan: Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, D; Candice S. Miller, R

Minnesota: Michele Bachmann, R; Betty McCollum, D

Missouri: Jo Ann Emerson, R

Nevada: Shelley Berkley, D

New Hampshire: Carol Shea-Porter, D

New York: Yvette D. Clarke, D; Kirsten Gillibrand, D; Nita M. Lowey, D; Carolyn B. Maloney, D; Carolyn McCarthy, D; Louise M. Slaughter, D; Nydia M. Velazquez, D;

North Carolina: Virginia Foxx, R; Sue Myrick, R;

Ohio: Stephanie Tubbs Jones, D; Marcy Kaptur, D; Betty Sutton, D;

Oklahoma: Mary Fallin, R

Oregon: Darlene Hooley, D

Pennsylvania: Allyson Y. Schwartz, D

South Dakota: Stephanie Herseth, D

Tennessee: Marsha Blackburn, R

Texas: Kay Granger, R; Sheila Jackson-Lee, D; Eddie Bernice Johnson, D

Virgin Islands: Donna M.C. Christensen, D (delegate)

Virginia: Jo Ann Davis, R; Thelma Drake, R

Washington: Cathy McMorris, R

West Virginia: Shelley Moore Capito, R

Wisconsin: Tammy Baldwin, D; Gwen Moore, D

* As of press time Wednesday, races too close to call in NM-01 (Heather Wilson, R), OH-02 (Jean Schmidt, R) and OH-15 (Deborah Pryce, R) had only female candidates and so their eventual winners are calculated above; WY-AL (Barbara Cubin, R) is not included.

SENATE (16; two more than in 109th)

Alaska: Lisa Murkowski, R

Arkansas: Blanche Lincoln, D

California: Barbara Boxer, D; Dianne Feinstein, D

Louisiana: Mary L. Landrieu, D

Maine: Susan Collins, R; Olympia J. Snowe, R

Maryland: Barbara A. Mikulski, D

Michigan: Debbie Stabenow, D

Minnesota: Amy Klobuchar, D

Missouri: Claire McCaskill, D

New York: Hillary Rodham Clinton, D

North Carolina: Elizabeth Dole, R

Texas: Kay Bailey Hutchison, R

Washington: Maria Cantwell, D; Patty Murray, D

Senate Committees *continued from page 77*

eral charter for insurance companies. And it will continue to hold hearings on federal regulators' investigations into questionable awards of stock options at many public companies.

Sarbanes is retiring and Rick Santorum, R-Pa., was defeated.

— **Michael R. Crittenden**



Kent Conrad



Judd Gregg

Budget

Democratic control of the Senate would make a big difference to the Budget Committee, which sets overall discretionary spending caps and writes budget rules.

Kent Conrad, D-N.D., is in line to take over the gavel if his party prevails, and he is itching to set a sharply different budgetary course. After railing for years about a growing "wall of debt," he wants a return to tight discretionary spending caps and pay-as-you-go budget rules requiring new tax cuts and entitlement spending to be offset. Republicans let those rules expire, making it easier for them to advance their tax cuts, and have blocked Democratic efforts to restore them, contending that it would inevitably lead to a tax increase.

Conrad, like his House counterpart, John M. Spratt Jr., D-S.C., is likely to face pressure from many Democrats to allocate more money to domestic programs, even if that requires finding new revenue. He also serves on the Finance Committee, where he has repeatedly called for an enforcement crackdown to collect unpaid taxes, estimated by some at more than \$340 billion a year. Like other Democrats, he also wants to change the law to allow Medicare officials to negotiate with drug makers for discounted prescription drug prices in an effort to save money in that big program.

Conrad has said he will not seek to roll back Bush tax cuts for the middle class. Democrats will have to decide, in drafting their first congressional budget resolution, whether to seek a rollback of tax cuts enjoyed by the wealthiest Americans.

If they can agree on a budget resolution, Democrats would have a chance to pass reconciliation legislation changing entitlement programs, tax laws and other programs, immune from filibusters in the Senate. But divisions within the party could make it difficult to muster the 51 votes needed, and Bush could be waiting with his veto pen at the end of the process.

Paul S. Sarbanes, D-Md., is retiring. No panel Republicans are leaving. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., has the least seniority and could be bumped from his seat.

— **Steven T. Dennis**

Commerce, Science and Transportation

Chairman Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, and ranking minority member Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii, who will swap titles if control shifts to the Democrats, have similar priorities and have worked together closely for decades, not only here but also on the Appropriations Committee.

With action on telecommunications legislation unlikely during the lame-duck session, the panel will try again next year. Both Stevens and Inouye are determined to stabilize the Universal Service Fund, which



Daniel K. Inouye



Ted Stevens

subsidizes local telephone service in rural and low-income areas through a surcharge on long-distance bills. That funding base is shrinking as e-mail, cell phones and Internet calling plans replace traditional service. Alaska and Hawaii both receive significant payouts from the fund.

The Bell telephone companies, which are entering the video market, lobbied in 2006 for legislation to streamline franchising rules that require video providers to negotiate contracts with individual municipalities. But the phone companies may abandon those efforts in the 110th Congress because Democrats want to tie franchising relief to "net neutrality" restrictions that would bar phone and cable companies from giving priority to certain kinds of broadband traffic. In the meantime, many states are passing their own franchising-relief measures, and the Federal Communications Commission is looking at the issue.

Another priority next year will be reauthorizing the Federal Aviation Administration. The FAA says it needs a new source of revenue to upgrade the air traffic control system and is expected to ask Congress to fund the agency through user fees paid by airlines and general aviation, rather than the current mix of appropriated funds, fuel taxes and passenger ticket taxes. Stevens wants to develop a funding mechanism to meet the FAA's modernization needs that is not constrained by the annual budget process. Inouye has not taken a stance on the issue.

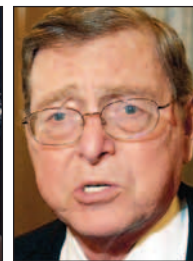
The panel also may try again to strengthen rail and mass transit security. Such provisions were dropped from the final version of a port security bill enacted last month (PL 109-347). The panel will take another run at overhauling the 1976 Magnuson-Stevens law (PL 94-265), which regulates commercial and recreational fishing operations up to 200 miles from U.S. coasts, if legislation is not enacted in the lame-duck session.

Conrad Burns, R-Mont., was defeated. George Allen, R-Va., is trailing in his race.

— **Joelle Tessier**



Jeff Bingaman



Pete V. Domenici

Energy and Natural Resources

Democrat Jeff Bingaman and Republican Pete V. Domenici are both from New Mexico. They have worked together to develop bipartisan energy legislation in the past, including the comprehensive policy overhaul (PL 109-58) enacted in 2005. On many issues, changes are likely to be a matter of degree.

Domenici, the current chairman, supported Bingaman on a successful but non-binding "sense of the Senate" resolution in the 2005 energy law declaring that global warming is a serious problem that needs to be addressed through some kind of mandatory controls on greenhouse gas emissions.

Domenici is an ardent supporter of the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP), an ambitious effort to develop technologies to recycle nuclear waste in support of an international expansion

of nuclear power. Bingaman supports nuclear power and has voted in favor of a permanent waste repository at Yucca Mountain in Nevada, but he is more skeptical than Domenici about the GNEP, which has been criticized by many experts.

Similarly, although Bingaman agrees that the nation needs to boost domestic oil and gas production, he is a stronger advocate than Domenici of improving energy efficiency and increasing the use of power sources like wind and solar energy.

Jim Talent, R-Mo., George Allen, R-Va., and Conrad Burns, R-Mont., were defeated.

— Jeff Tollefson



Barbara Boxer



James M. Inhofe

Environment and Public Works

Few panels would see a more drastic change of focus under Democratic control. With the retirement of James M. Jeffords, I-Vt., liberal Democrat Barbara Boxer of California would take the gavel from conservative Republican James M. Inhofe of Oklahoma.

The two have clashed on nearly every issue. At oversight hearings, Boxer has engaged in testy exchanges with Bush administration witnesses, often scolding them for what she sees as efforts to roll back bedrock environmental safeguards. Inhofe has strongly supported the administration's industry-backed approach to pollution control.

Given the Senate's narrow partisan division, however, Boxer might have to settle for high-profile oversight activity rather than passage of complex, controversial environmental legislation.

Boxer has cosponsored legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020 and to 80 percent below that by 2050. Her state has the most aggressive greenhouse gas control law in the nation, and she sees global warming as a critical threat to the planet. Inhofe considers it a "Chicken Little" story.

Boxer has cosponsored an ambitious proposal to cut down on electric utilities' emissions of mercury, nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide and carbon dioxide. But panel member Thomas R. Carper, D-Del., prefers a less-aggressive approach than Boxer's to controlling the four air pollutants. Inhofe has backed the Bush administration's "Clear Skies" plan, which has far less stringent emissions-reduction provisions and would not cap carbon dioxide.

Lincoln Chafee, R-R.I., was defeated.

— Manu Raju

Finance

Ranking Democrat Max Baucus of Montana has worked in a bipartisan, collegial fashion with Chairman Charles E. Grassley, R-Iowa. Both come from rural states, and they share many values. So the effects of a gavel swap will be somewhat muted.

The Finance agenda will depend heavily on whether the House and Senate agree on a fiscal 2008 budget resolution that calls for a "reconciliation" bill, which is immune from Senate filibusters. That would allow the party to reopen the Bush tax cuts and the 2003 Medicare prescription drug law, which they have criticized. But Baucus helped write the 2001 tax cuts (PL 107-16) and the final Medicare law (PL 108-173), and it is unclear how he would re-



Max Baucus



Charles E. Grassley

spond to party pressure for changes.

Grassley and Baucus have been upset by the GOP leadership's delay in extending tax breaks that expired in 2005 or will expire this year. The list includes the college tuition deduction, the research-

and-development credit and the deduction of state and local sales taxes in states with no income tax.

Baucus would seek more timely passage of extenders that expire in 2007. He also might try to make some of them permanent, such as the R&D credit. And he has voiced interest in allowing parents to set up Roth individual retirement accounts for children under age 18.

Baucus supports permanently scaling back the alternative minimum tax (AMT), which is hitting more middle-class taxpayers each year. But the cost would be \$1 trillion over 10 years, a daunting deterrent. One way to offset that would be to narrow the estimated \$340 billion annual tax gap, the difference between taxes owed and those paid. Baucus has made closing the gap a personal crusade.

On Medicare, Democrats may push to allow the government to negotiate drug prices on behalf of all beneficiaries. If the lame-duck Congress does not block a scheduled 5 percent cut in Medicare payments to physicians, that issue could also occupy the committee next year.

Baucus is generally a free trade supporter, voting to implement trade deals that other Democrats have criticized. But he may face resistance from some in his party if the White House seeks renewal next year of Bush's expiring fast-track trade authority, which bars Congress from amending trade pacts and requires an up-or-down vote on an expedited schedule.

Bill Frist, R-Tenn., is retiring, as is James M. Jeffords, I-Vt. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., was defeated.

— Rachel Van Dongen



Joseph R. Biden Jr.



Richard G. Lugar

Foreign Relations

Of all congressional panels, the Foreign Relations Committee has focused the hardest and generated the most bipartisan criticism on the dominant topic of this election — the war in Iraq. That focus is likely to grow even more intense in the new Congress.

Joseph R. Biden Jr., D-Del., the current ranking minority member, would swap titles with Chairman Richard G. Lugar, R-Ind., under Democratic control. He would focus with increased authority on President Bush's policies on Iraq, Iran and North Korea — areas where he accuses Bush of lacking sophistication and shunning a nuanced diplomatic approach.

Biden issued a statement Nov. 8 saying a "radical change in course" was needed for Iraq and urging his colleagues in Congress to work with him to forge a bipartisan consensus on the issue.

Biden, one of several senators eager to nab the 2008 Democratic presidential nomination, has proposed a plan to federalize Iraq by

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ethnic groups into three regions under a central government that would be responsible for common interests such as border control and distributing oil revenues. While the White House has publicly dismissed his suggestion, it remains a topic of considerable discussion in foreign policy circles.

If he is chairman, Biden also is likely to conduct aggressive investigations and hold numerous hearings on contract abuses and other problems in Iraq. "There's basically been very little critical oversight," he said.

Lugar has been an occasional but influential critic of the conduct of the war. But the White House has stonewalled his efforts to get information about planning and cost estimates for the war.

An aide said Biden would continue a collaborative approach to shaping the panel's hearings agenda. "Obviously there are times when we won't agree, and in those instances, we'll fight it out," the aide said. "But we'll fight it out in a face-to-face fashion, not with knives in the back. He doesn't believe in using the majority status to deny the other side a fair hearing."

Paul S. Sarbanes, D-Md., is retiring. Lincoln Chafee, R-R.I., and George Allen, R-Va. were defeated.

— **Elaine Monaghan**



Edward M. Kennedy **Michael B. Enzi**

Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

The scheduled renewal of President Bush's landmark education overhaul — the 2001 law known as No Child Left Behind — will be the most prominent issue the HELP Committee must address in the 110th Congress. It also likely will be one of the most difficult.

Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., likely to take the gavel from Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., has several priorities that he may pursue first, including efforts to increase access to affordable health care.

He is likely to move a bill that would require health systems to adopt electronic medical records and make them easier to transmit between providers, an issue on which he and Enzi agree. The two may also move bills to overhaul the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The panel also could tackle an expansion of federally funded embryonic stem cell research, which Kennedy supports but Enzi opposes. In the 109th, Congress cleared a House bill lifting restrictions on funding of embryonic stem cell research, but Bush vetoed it, killing the measure.

Student loan programs were renewed as part of a budget-cutting law (PL 109-171). But other student aid programs under the Higher Education Act (PL 89-329) are set to expire June 30. Kennedy not only wants to renew those, he also might try to rewrite the ground rules for student loans, which he says Republicans have made too profitable for lenders and too expensive for students.

Reauthorizing No Child Left Behind (PL 107-110) will be challenging; it has drawn fire from different directions, and lawmakers may not be able to agree on a rewrite in 2007, or perhaps even in the 110th Congress.

Kennedy is sure to push an increase in the minimum wage, which

has remained at \$5.15 an hour since 1997. Under Enzi the committee never considered minimum wage legislation. Kennedy has sought to raise the wage to \$7.25 over two years.

Kennedy also wants to prohibit employers from discriminating against workers based on genetic information. Enzi supports that measure, and it passed the Senate in the 109th Congress, but it was never considered by the House.

Bill Frist, R-Tenn., and James M. Jeffords, I-Vt., are retiring. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, was defeated.

— **Alex Wayne**



Joseph I. Lieberman **Susan Collins**

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Democrats are welcoming Joseph I. Lieberman of Connecticut back to the fold, even though he won re-election as an independent after losing his primary to an anti-war candidate.

Assuming they control the Senate next year, Lieberman is expected to claim the committee gavel from Republican moderate Susan Collins of Maine, with whom he has worked closely the past few years. He previously chaired the panel from mid-2001 to 2003.

Lieberman said Nov. 8 that Reid had assured him he would be the next chairman if Democrats are in the majority.

Lieberman will be under pressure from his colleagues to prove his Democratic bona fides by probing waste, fraud and abuse in government contracts and conducting vigorous oversight of the sprawling Homeland Security Department. He was a driving force behind creation of the department in 2002 (PL 107-296) and has been frustrated by its many operational problems.

Collins and Lieberman in late October wrote to the secretaries of State and Defense informing them that the committee is probing allegations that a Halliburton subsidiary tried to obstruct a review of Iraq reconstruction contracts by the office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. They said they will push to extend the special inspector general's mandate beyond its scheduled 2007 sunset.

The committee will have to wrestle again with an overhaul of the Postal Service, which has been held up for years by a dispute between Congress and the White House over whether \$27 billion in pension benefits for postal workers who served in the military should be borne by the Treasury or the Postal Service.

Mark Dayton, D-Minn., is retiring. Lincoln Chafee, R-R.I., was defeated. Newly elected Democrat Claire McCaskill has said that she wants to serve on the panel.

— **Patrick Yoest**

Indian Affairs

Democrat Byron L. Dorgan of North Dakota appears likely to take over the gavel from Republican John McCain of Arizona, assuming Democrats controls the Senate. He supports McCain's efforts to force a settlement between tribes and the government in a long-running Indian trust fund lawsuit, *Cobell v. Kempthorne*. McCain has threatened to settle the issue through legislation unless the Interior Department and the tribes resolve it quickly.

Under Dorgan the panel also may continue to examine the mon-

ey trail left by convicted lobbyist Jack Abramoff, who defrauded Indian tribal clients of tens of millions of dollars. McCain led an aggressive two-year investigation into Abramoff's activities.

McCain is expected to become the top Republican on the Armed Services Committee, yielding the top spot here to Craig Thomas of Wyoming, whose state includes the Wind River Indian Reservation, one of the nation's largest.

— **Kathryn A. Wolfe**



John D. Rockefeller IV **Pat Roberts**

Intelligence

John D. Rockefeller IV, D-W.Va., wants to take a closer look at the intelligence of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Rockefeller, the current ranking minority member, would swap titles with Chairman Pat Roberts, R-Kan., if Democrats run the Senate. He is dismayed by what he considers the FBI's slow transformation from a crime-busting agency to one focused heavily on countering terror threats. He also wants to scrutinize administration efforts to halt nuclear proliferation in North Korea and Iran, and develop a more collaborative relationship with the Armed Services Committee, which also oversees intelligence.

He would like the intelligence community to take a longer view of terror threats. He advocates a 10-year plan that would address the roots of terrorism and pay close attention to emerging threats in Africa and Southeast Asia.

Rockefeller also intends to review how agencies are carrying out the 2004 intelligence overhaul law (PL 108-458). He wants to access whether they are producing assessments unbiased by political influences, tackling a major shortfall in foreign language skills, and improving intelligence collection from spies on the ground, not just satellites and other technological means.

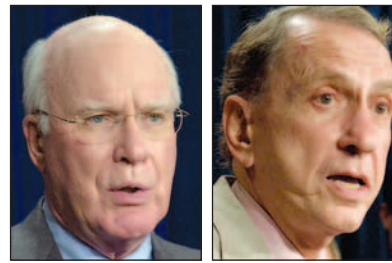
Roberts and Rockefeller have warred over an investigation into Iraq prewar intelligence. They completed "Phase I" of the inquiry, which culminated in a report that heavily faulted the Central Intelligence Agency. But "Phase II" has been a different story. Democrats forced the Senate into closed session in 2005 to spotlight call attention to what they considered Roberts' attempt to stall the probe and shelter the Bush administration from criticism. Republicans charged that Democrats were grandstanding.

Three parts remain unfinished in the five-part Phase II probe. Rockefeller has fought Roberts' effort to expand a review of Bush administration statements in the war run-up to examine Democratic statements of that period as well. Roberts has overridden Rockefeller and postponed an examination of the Pentagon's Office of Special Plans under former Undersecretary of Defense Douglas J. Feith, pending a Pentagon inspector general's report. A third segment of the investigation, reviewing pre-war assessments of post-war Iraq, is still pending.

Rockefeller might be able to steer a new intelligence authorization bill through Congress. In 2005, the Senate did not pass an authorization measure for the first time since 1978, and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., shelved this year's version to block floor debate of Democratic amendments.

Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, was defeated.

— **Tim Starks**



Patrick J. Leahy

Arlen Specter

Judiciary

Under Democrats, the Judiciary Committee would conduct much tougher oversight of President Bush's counterterrorism tactics and reject his most controversial conservative judicial nominees.

If another Supreme Court vacancy occurs in the final two years of Bush's presidency, Democrats will be under enormous pressure from liberal activists to reject any replacement perceived as too conservative.

But on one issue, as the president pointed out Nov. 8, Democrats could give a boost to a key Bush priority — a comprehensive immigration overhaul that includes a guest worker program and a path to legal status for millions of immigrants now in the United States illegally. Democrats have been more supportive of that approach than Republicans, and the Judiciary Committee would be the starting point for a new bill.

Patrick J. Leahy of Vermont, currently the ranking Democrat, would chair the panel next year. Leahy has called congressional oversight the ultimate antidote to executive overreaching, and he has been frustrated by the administration's resistance to Democratic attempts to scrutinize the Justice Department.

In particular, Leahy may focus on the organization of the FBI and the technological tools it uses, as well as the bureau's alleged surveillance of domestic anti-war groups and its treatment of whistleblowers in its ranks. He also may step up oversight of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division.

With Leahy in charge, the committee could investigate the scope of the government's National Security Agency (NSA) warrantless surveillance program, with an eye toward drafting legislation to revise the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (PL 95-511). The panel also is likely to explore, with subpoenas if necessary, allegations that major telecommunications companies cooperated with an NSA data-mining program.

The Vermont Democrat also wants to revise the Freedom of Information Act (PL 89-487). Judiciary members recently approved FOIA legislation (S 394) that Leahy wrote with Texas Republican John Cornyn.

Republicans have pushed for constitutional amendments on flag-burning and gay marriage. But those proposals won't go anywhere in the 110th Congress.

Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, was defeated.

— **Keith Perine**

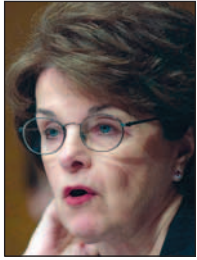
Rules and Administration

The 109th Congress brought the committee out of hibernation, and it isn't likely to slow down in the 110th.

Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., is expected to take over the Rules gavel from Trent Lott, R-Miss.

There will be plenty of unfinished business stemming from Capitol Hill influence-peddling scandals of the past two years. Both the House and the Senate passed broad ethics bills (HR 4975, S 2349) this year, but lawmakers have made little progress in resolving differences between the two. Lott and his allies are resisting House

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Senate Committees *continued from page 81***Dianne Feinstein****Trent Lott**

efforts to crack down on so-called 527 advocacy groups that can raise and spend vast sums of unregulated money. Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Russ Feingold, D-Wis., lead authors of the 2002 campaign finance overhaul (PL 107-155), support a 527 crackdown. Both are exploring runs for president in 2008, all but guaranteeing that the issue will return.

If the Senate does not take up a rules change in the lame-duck session that would require disclosure of the senators responsible for all “earmarks” in appropriations, authorizations and tax bills, Feinstein plans to pursue such a measure in the 110th. The House adopted a similar rule in September.

Feinstein said Wednesday that election overhaul legislation will be at the top of her agenda. “Here we are, technologically the most sophisticated nation on Earth, and voting was more reliable when we had old technology,” she said. “It just doesn’t make sense.”

Bill Frist, R-Tenn., and Mark Dayton, D-Minn., are retiring; Rick Santorum, R-Pa., was defeated.

— **Daphne Retter**

**Tim Johnson****George V. Voinovich****Select Ethics**

Ethics is the only panel that is always evenly divided between the parties. Tim Johnson, D-S.D., would take over as chairman, and current Chairman George V. Voinovich, R-Ohio, would become

vice chairman.

In the 109th Congress, the panel has issued guidelines on travel rules, Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts and campaign-related ethics questions. In a letter to Democracy 21 head Fred Wertheimer about the committee’s inaction on the Jack Abramoff lobbying affair, the panel explained why it hadn’t acted. “As a matter of general practice,” the panel said, it defers action on matters that are under criminal investigation by law enforcement authorities.

The panel’s last major action was an admonishment of Sen. Robert G. Torricelli, D-N.J., in 2002, for improperly accepting expensive gifts from a former campaign supporter. He dropped his re-election bid soon thereafter.

— **Jonathan Allen**

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

John Kerry of Massachusetts, probably the next chairman, has pledged that he would “keep up the tradition of working across party lines to help small businesses.”

Kerry and current Chairwoman Olympia J. Snowe, R-Maine, work well together. The two introduced a measure (S 3950) in late September that would use tax incentives to encourage equity investments in small businesses.

Kerry would probably focus on the affordability of health care for small businesses and their employees, tax issues, improving small

business access to capital and federal contracting. He would also pursue proposals to bolster minority-owned businesses and those owned by veterans returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Early next year, the panel will try again to reauthorize Small Business Administration programs; a temporary extension (PL 109-316) expires Feb. 2.

Panel member Conrad Burns, R-Mont., was defeated, as was George Allen, R-Va.

— **Victoria McGrane**

**Herb Kohl****Gordon H. Smith****Special Aging**

The committee has no legislative powers, but it can investigate and oversee government agencies responsible for programs affecting older Americans. Under Democrats, ranking member Herb Kohl of Wisconsin would take the chairmanship, and current Chairman Gordon H. Smith of Oregon would become ranking Republican.

The panel is expected to scrutinize implementation of the new Medicare Part D drug benefit, which took effect last January, and review plans to promote generic drugs to cut program costs. It may also study the program’s “doughnut hole,” a coverage gap that requires beneficiaries to pay for drugs out of pocket when their costs in any given year total between \$2,250 and \$5,100.

Additional issues include Social Security, other retirement benefits for seniors, prescription drug importation, scams against seniors, and concerns over long-term care and nursing homes.

Jim Talent, R-Mo., Rick Santorum, R-Pa., and Conrad Burns, R-Mont., were defeated.

— **Drew Armstrong**

Veterans’ Affairs

The committee will focus intently on ways to assure a seamless transition to services offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) after Iraq War veterans are discharged from the military.

Daniel K. Akaka of Hawaii, the likely new chairman if Democrats control the Senate, also would look at budget problems at the VA, which had nearly a \$3 billion health care shortfall in 2005.

Akaka could seek to improve the exchange of records — specifically electronic discharge forms and health records — between the Pentagon and the VA. He also wants to make more VA benefits available to National Guard personnel returning from Iraq and Afghanistan and improve the VA’s catastrophic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder care.

Akaka favors mandatory funding of VA health care and has resisted Bush administration efforts to charge some veterans enrollment fees and higher drug copayments. Currently, VA health care is funded by discretionary appropriations, forcing it to compete with other priorities in bills that move under tight spending limits.

James M. Jeffords, I-Vt., is retiring. His successor, Bernard Sanders, I-Vt., has expressed interest in claiming Jeffords’ seat.

— **Patrick Yoest**

Meet our environmental spokesperson.



The Honda Fuel-Cell Vehicle

When it comes to environmental issues, we let our vehicles do the talking. The 2006 Honda FCX is powered by a Honda-designed and -manufactured hydrogen fuel-cell stack. The FCX is the first and only vehicle of its kind to be certified by both the EPA and the State of California for regular daily use. And the FCX is capable of starting and operating at temperatures as low as -4°F, and achieves better range, power and fuel efficiency than previous models. We're proud to have the FCX as a representative on environmental issues. It certainly has a lot to say on the matter.

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GM Gave Me A Mission To Mars

My name is Gerry Voeck. At GM, I worked on developing the technology that helped guide the Viking mission to Mars. Landing on the surface of Mars in 1975 forever changed how we view the universe. I think what GM is doing today will as well. GM's scientists have built the world's first drivable fuel cell by-wire vehicle — a high performance hydrogen propulsion system that emits only clean water vapor. Imagine that! GM is working toward cutting our dependence on petroleum, reducing emissions to nothing, and building a better performing, more powerful vehicle than ever before. Now that's an Earth shattering idea.

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