
Perspectives on the 111th Congress

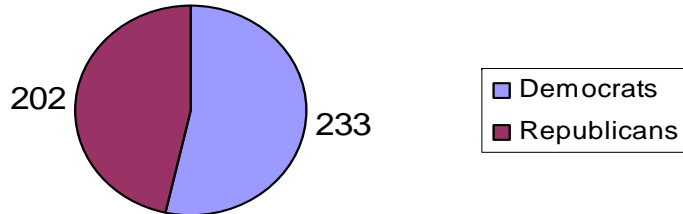
Claudia Copeland
Congressional Research Service
December 4, 2008



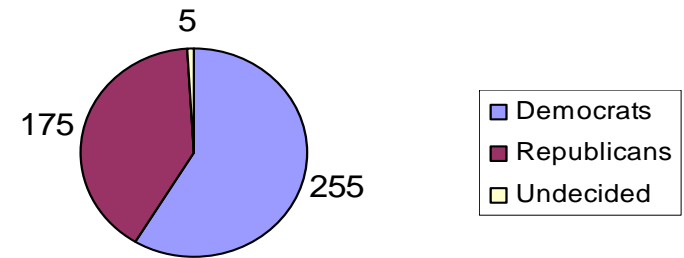
U.S. House of Representatives

Democrats gained 22 seats in the 2008 election; 5 races are undecided

110th Congress: House

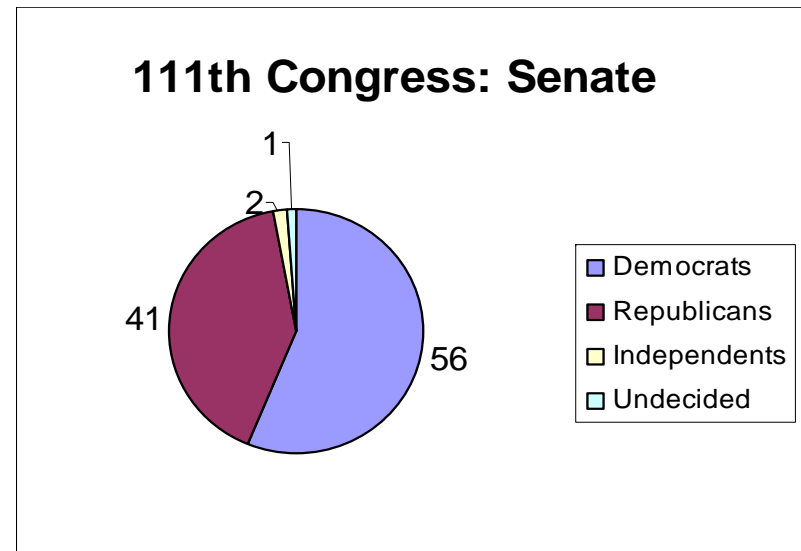
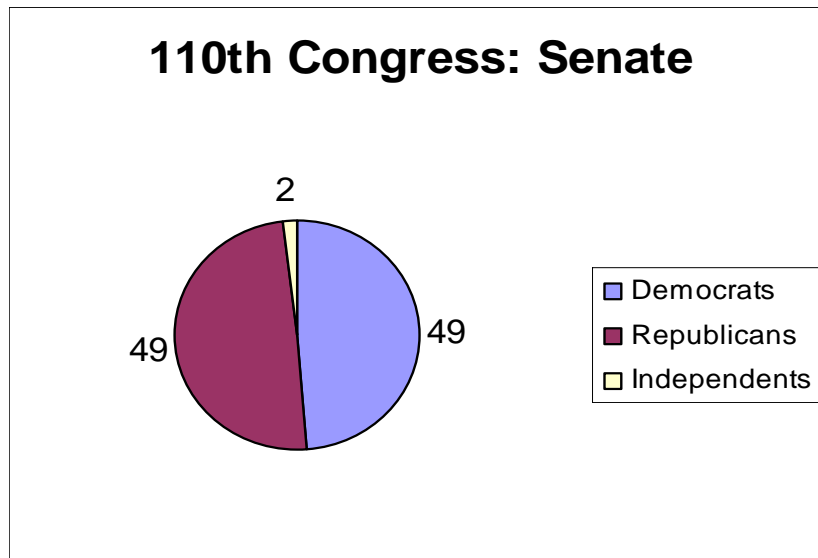


111th Congress: House



U.S. Senate

Democrats gained 7 seats in the 2008 election; 1 race is undecided



Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

Committee ratio: 10-9

Majority Committee Members

Barbara Boxer, CA
Max Baucus, MT
~~Joseph I. Lieberman, CT~~
Thomas R. Carper, DE
~~Hillary Rodham Clinton, NY~~
Frank R. Lautenberg, NJ
Benjamin L. Cardin, MD
Bernard Sanders, VT
Amy Klobuchar, MN
Sheldon Whitehouse, RI

Minority Committee Members

James Inhofe, OK
~~John Warner, VA~~
George Voinovich, OH
Johnny Isakson, GA
David Vitter, LA
John Barrasso, WY
~~Larry Craig, ID~~
Lamar Alexander, TN
Christopher S. Bond, MO

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Committee ratio: 12-11

Majority Committee Members

Jeff Bingaman, NM
Daniel Akaka, HI
Byron Dorgan, ND
Ron Wyden, OR
Tim Johnson, SD
May Landrieu, LA
Maria Cantwell, WA
Ken Salazar, CO
Robert Menendez, NJ
Blanche Lincoln, AR
Bernard Sanders, VT
Jon Tester, MT

Minority Committee Members

~~Pete Domenici, NM~~
~~Larry Craig, ID~~
Lisa Murkowski, AK
Richard Burr, NC
Jim DeMint, SC
Bob Corker, TN
John Barrasso, WY
Jeff Sessions, AL
~~Gordon Smith, OR~~
Jim Bunning, KY
Mel Martinez, FL

Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee

Committee ratio: 12-11

Majority Committee Members

[Daniel Inouye, HI]
John Rockefeller, IV, WV
John F. Kerry, MA
Byron Dorgan, ND
Barbara Boxer, CA
Bill Nelson, FL
Maria Cantwell, WA
Frank Lautenberg, NJ
Mark Pryor, AR
Thomas Carper, DE
Claire McCaskill, MO
Amy Klobuchar, MN

Minority Committee Members

Kay Bailey Hutchison, TX
~~Ted Stevens, AK~~
John McCain, AZ
Olympia Snowe, ME
~~Gordon Smith, OR~~
John Ensign, NV
~~John Sununu, NH~~
Jim DeMint, SC
David Vitter, LA
John Thune, SD
Roger Wicker, MS

House Transportation and Infrastructure Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee

Full committee ratio: 41-34; Subcommittee ratio: 22-17

Majority Subcommittee Members

Eddie Bernice-Johnson, TX
Gene Taylor, MS
Brian Baird, WA
Jerry Costello, IL
Timothy Bishop, NY
Brian Higgins, NY
Russ Carnahan, MO
John T. Salazar, CO
Mazie Hirono, HI
Heath Shuler, NC
Harry Mitchell, AZ
John J. Hall, NY
Steve Kagen, WI
Jerry McNeerney, CA
Eleanor Holmes Norton, DC
Bob Filner, CA
Ellen Tauscher, CA
Michael Capuano, MA
Grace Napolitano, CA
Michael Arcuri, NY
Donna Edwards, MD
~~James L. Oberstar, MN (ex officio)~~

Minority Subcommittee Members

John Boozman, AR
John Duncan, TN
~~Wayne Gilchrest, MD~~
Vernon Ehlers, MI
Frank LoBiondo, NJ
Gary Miller, CA
~~Robin Hayes, NC~~
Henry E. Brown, Jr., SC
Todd Russell Platts, PA
Bill Shuster, PA
Connie Mack, FL
~~John R. "Randy" Kuhl, NY~~
Charles Boustany, LA
Jean Schmidt, OH
Candice Miller, MI
~~Thelma Drake, VA~~
John L. Mica, FL (ex officio)

House Natural Resources Committee

Committee ratio: 27-22

Majority Committee Members

Nick Rahall, W V
Dale Kildee, MI
Eni Faleomavaega, AS
Neil Abercrombie, HI
Solomon Ortiz, TX
Frank Pallone, NJ
Donna Christensen, VI
Grace Napolitano, CA
Rush Holt, NJ
Raul Grijalva, AZ
Madeleine Bordallo, GU
Jim Costa, CA
Dan Boren, OK
John Sarbanes, MD
George Miller, CA
Edward Markey, MA
Peter DeFazio, OR
Maurice Hinchey, NY
Patrick Kennedy, RI
Ron Kind, WI
Lois Capps, CA
Jay Inslee, WA
~~Mark Udall, CO~~
Joe Baca, CA
Hilda Solis, CA
Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, SD
Heath Shuler, NC

Minority Committee Members

Don Young, AK
~~Jim Saxton, NJ~~
Elton Gallegly, CA
John Duncan, TN
~~Wayne Gilchrest, MD~~
Chris Cannon, UT
~~Thomas Tancredo, CO~~
Jeff Flake, AZ
~~Stevan Pearce, NM~~
Henry Brown, SC
~~Luis Fortuno, PR~~
Cathy McMorris Rodgers, WA
Louie Gohmert, TX
Tom Cole, OK
Rob Bishop, UT
Bill Shuster, PA
~~Bill Sali, ID~~
Doug Lamborn, CO
Mary Fallin, OK
Adrian Smith, NE
Robert Wittman, VA
Steve Scalise, LA

House Energy and Commerce Committee

- Committee change not directly made by the voters on November 4, but resulting from subsequent action by House Democrats:
 - Rep. Henry Waxman (CA) will replace Rep. John Dingell (MI) as chairman
 - Likely to mean greater attention to climate change, clean air protection, fuel efficiency, and energy conservation measures
-

Likely Priorities in the 111th Congress

- Water infrastructure “2-step”
 - Investments to support economic stimulus for Obama’s number 1 priority: economic recovery
 - Program changes some time later
 - Climate change, climate change, climate change
 - Everything else
-

What is Everything Else?

- A long list of issues and items overdue for legislative attention, or recommendations for action from interest groups
 - There is no shortage of policy recommendations from think tanks, academics, interest groups for the Obama Administration and Congress
 - Obama campaign environmental policy priorities emphasized climate change
-

What is Everything Else? (cont.)

- Some likely legislative priorities:
 - Clean Water Act jurisdiction (what is meant by “navigable waters”) in response to *SWANCC*, *Rapanos* Supreme Court rulings
 - Great Lakes restoration, protection
 - Water Resources Development Act
 - Reinvigorating resources of federal agencies
-

The First 100 Days

- What announcements or actions will the Obama Administration take in the first 100 days?
 - What actions will Congress take in the first 100 days?
-