

# Congressional Advocacy and Key Housing Committees

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By Kim Johnson, Public Policy Manager, NLIHC

**M**embers of Congress are accountable to their constituents, and as a constituent, you have the right to advocate for the issues important to you with the members who represent you. As a housing advocate, you should exercise that right.

## CONTACT YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

To find the contact information for your Members of Congress, visit [www.govtrack.us](http://www.govtrack.us), or call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121. You can also use NLIHC's Legislative Action Center to look up Members of Congress at [nlihc.org/take-action](http://nlihc.org/take-action).

## MEETING WITH YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Scheduling a meeting, determining your main “ask” or “asks,” developing an agenda, creating appropriate materials to take with you, ensuring your meeting does not veer off topic, and following up afterward are all crucial to holding effective meetings with Members of Congress.

For more tips on how to advocate and lobby effectively, see *Best Practices and Tips for Advocacy and Lobbying* in this chapter.

## KEY CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES

The following are key housing authorizing and appropriating committees in Congress:

- The House of Representatives Committee on Financial Services.
- The House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations.
- The House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means.

- The Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
- The Senate Committee on Appropriations.
- The Senate Committee on Finance.

See below for details on these key committees as of January 30, 2023. For all committees, members who sit on key housing subcommittees are marked with an asterisk (\*).

*Please note: The information on committee assignments below reflects the information available at the time of publication. Visit committee websites for up-to-date information on committee assignments.*

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

*Visit the Committee's website at <http://financialservices.house.gov>.*

The House Committee on Financial Services oversees all components of the nation's housing and financial services sectors, including banking, insurance, real estate, public and assisted housing, and securities. The Committee reviews laws and programs related to HUD, the Federal Reserve Bank, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, government sponsored enterprises including Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and international development and finance agencies such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

The Committee also ensures the enforcement of housing and consumer protection laws such as the “U.S. Housing Act,” the “Truth in Lending Act,” the “Housing and Community Development Act,” the “Fair Credit Reporting Act,” the “Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act,” the “Community Reinvestment Act,” and financial privacy laws.

The Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance oversees HUD and the Government National

Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae). The Subcommittee also handles matters related to housing affordability, rural housing, community development including Opportunity Zones, and government sponsored insurance programs such as the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) and the National Flood Insurance Program.

\*Members marked with an asterisk sit on the Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance.

## MAJORITY MEMBERS (REPUBLICANS)

- Patrick McHenry (NC), *Chair*
- Warren Davidson (OH),\* *Subcommittee Chair*
- Frank Lucas (OK)
- Pete Sessions (TX)
- Bill Posey (FL)\*
- Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO)\*
- Bill Huizenga (MI)
- Ann Wagner (MO)
- Andy Barr (KY)
- Roger Williams (TX)
- French Hill (AR)
- Tom Emmer (MN)
- Barry Loudermilk (GA)
- Alexander Mooney (WV)
- John Rose (TN)
- Bryan Steil (WI)
- William Timmons (SC)
- Ralph Norman (SC)\*
- Dan Meuser (PA)
- Scott Fitzgerald (WI)\*
- Andrew Garbarino (NY)\*
- Young Kim (CA)
- Byron Donalds (FL)
- Mike Flood (NE)\*
- Mike Lawler (NY)\*

- Zach Nunn (IA)
- Monica De La Cruz (TX)\*
- Erin Houchin (IN)\*
- Andy Ogles (TN)

## Minority Members (Democrats)

- Maxine Waters (CA), *Ranking Member*
- Emanuel Cleaver (MO),\* *Subcommittee Ranking Member*
- Nydia Velázquez (NY)\*
- Brad Sherman (CA)
- Gregory Meeks (NY)
- David Scott (GA)
- Stephen Lynch (MA)
- Al Green (TX)
- Jim Himes (CT)
- Bill Foster (IL)
- Joyce Beatty (OH)
- Juan Vargas (CA)
- Josh Gottheimer (NJ)
- Vincente Gonzalez (TX)
- Sean Casten (IL)
- Ayanna Pressley (MA)
- Steven Horsford (NV)\*
- Rashida Tlaib (MI)\*
- Ritchie Torres (NY)\*
- Sylvia Garcia (TX)\*
- Nikema Williams (GA)\*
- Wiley Nickel (NC)
- Brittany Pettersen (CO)\*

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Visit the committee's website at <http://appropriations.house.gov>.

The House Committee on Appropriations is responsible for determining the amount of funding made available to all authorized programs each year.

The Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development and Related Agencies (THUD) determines the amount of government revenues dedicated to HUD and other relevant agencies, including the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness.

\*Members marked with an asterisk sit on the THUD Subcommittee.

## Majority Members (Republicans)

- Kay Granger (TX), *Chair*
- Tom Cole (OK),\* *Subcommittee Chair*
- Harold Rogers (KY)
- Robert Aderholt (AL)
- Michael Simpson (ID)
- John Carter (TX)
- Ken Calvert (CA)
- Mario Diaz-Balart (FL)\*
- Steve Womack (AR)\*
- Chuck Fleishmann (TN)
- David Joyce (OH)
- Andy Harris (MD)
- Mark Amodei (NV)
- Chris Stewart (UT)
- Dan Newhouse (WA)
- John Moolenaar (MI)
- John Rutherford (FL)\*
- Ben Cline (VA)\*
- Guy Reschenthaler (PA)
- Mike Garcia (CA)

- Ashley Hinson (IA)
- Tony Gonzalez (TX)\*
- David Valadao (CA)\*
- Julia Letlow (LA)
- Michael Cloud (TX)
- Michael Guest (MS)
- Ryan Zinke (MT)\*
- Andrew Clyde (GA)
- Jake LaTurner (KS)
- Jerry Carl (AL)
- Stephanie Bice (OK)
- Scott Franklin (FL)
- Jake Ellzey (TX)
- Juan Ciscomani (AZ)\*

## Minority Members (Democrats)

- Rosa DeLauro (CT), *Ranking Member*
- Mike Quigley (IL),\* *Subcommittee Ranking Member*
- Steny Hoyer (MD)
- Marcy Kaptur (OH)
- Sanford Bishop (GA)
- Barbara Lee (CA)
- Betty McCollum (MN)
- Dutch Ruppersberger (MD)
- Debbie Wasserman Schultz (FL)
- Henry Cuellar (TX)
- Chellie Pingree (ME)
- Derek Kilmer (WA)
- Matt Cartwright (PA)
- Grace Meng (NY)
- Mark Pocan (WI)
- Pete Aguilar (CA)\*
- Lois Frankel (FL)
- Bonnie Watson Coleman (NJ)\*
- Norma Torres (CA)\*

- Ed Case (HI)
- Adriano Espaillat (NY)\*
- Josh Harder (CA)
- Jennifer Wexton (VA)\*
- David Trone (MD)
- Lauren Underwood (IL)
- Susie Lee (NV)
- Joseph Morelle (NY)

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Visit the committee's website at <http://waysandmeans.house.gov>.

The Committee on Ways and Means is the chief tax writing committee in the House of Representatives and has jurisdiction over taxation, tariffs, many programs including Social Security, Medicare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and unemployment insurance. The Low Income Housing Tax Credit falls within its jurisdiction.

### Majority Members (Republicans)

- Jason Smith (MO), *Chair*
- Vern Buchanan (FL)
- Adrian Smith (NE)
- Mike Kelly (PA)
- David Schweikert (AZ)
- Darin LaHood (IL)
- Brad Wenstrup (OH)
- Jodey Arrington (TX)
- Drew Ferguson (GA)
- Ron Estes (KS)
- Lloyd Smucker (PA)
- Kevin Hern (OK)
- Carol Miller (WV)
- Greg Murphy (NC)
- David Kustoff (TN)

- Brian Fitzpatrick (PA)
- Greg Steube (FL)
- Claudia Tenney (NY)
- Michelle Fischbach (MN)
- Blake Moore (UT)
- Michelle Steel (CA)
- Beth Van Duyne (TX)
- Randy Feenstra (IA)
- Nicole Malliotakis (NY)
- Mike Carey (OH)

### Minority Members (Democrats)

- Richard Neal (MA), *Ranking Member*
- Lloyd Doggett (TX)
- Mike Thompson (CA)
- John Larson (CT)
- Earl Blumenauer (OR)
- Bill Pascrell (NJ)
- Danny Davis (IL)
- Linda Sanchez (CA)
- Brian Higgins (NY)
- Terri Sewell (AL)
- Suzan DelBene (WA)
- Judy Chu (CA)
- Gwen Moore (WI)
- Dan Kildee (MI)
- Don Beyer (VA)
- Dwight Evans (PA)
- Brad Schneider (IL)
- Jimmy Panetta (CA)

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Visit the committee's website at [www.banking.senate.gov](http://www.banking.senate.gov).

The Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs oversees legislation, petitions, and other matters related to financial institutions, economic policy, housing, transportation, urban development, international trade and finance, and securities and investments.

The Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development oversees mass transit systems, general urban affairs and development issues and is the primary oversight committee for HUD. The subcommittee oversees HUD community development programs, the FHA, the Rural Housing Service, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and all issues related to public and private housing, senior housing, nursing home construction, and indigenous housing issues.

\*Members marked with an asterisk sit on the Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development.

### Majority Members (Democrats)

- Sherrod Brown (OH), *Chair*
- Tina Smith (MN),\* *Subcommittee Chair*
- Jack Reed (RI)\*
- Robert Menendez (NJ)\*
- Jon Tester (MT)\*
- Mark Warner (VA)
- Elizabeth Warren (MA)
- Chris Van Hollen (MD)
- Catherine Cortez Masto (NV)\*
- Krysten Sinema (AZ)\*
- Raphael Warnock (GA)\*
- John Fetterman (PA)\*

### Minority Members (Republicans)

- Tim Scott (SC), *Ranking Member*
- Cynthia Lummis (WY),\* *Subcommittee Ranking*

### Member

- Mike Crapo (ID)\*
- Mike Rounds (SD)\*
- Thom Tillis (NC)
- John Kennedy (LA)\*
- Bill Hagerty (TN)\*
- J.D. Vance (OH)\*
- Katie Britt (AL)\*
- Kevin Cramer (ND)
- Steve Daines (MT)

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Visit the committee's website at <http://www.appropriations.senate.gov>.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations is responsible for determining the amount of funding made available to all authorized programs each year.

THUD has jurisdiction over funding for the Department of Transportation and HUD, including community planning and development, fair housing and equal opportunity, the FHA, Ginnie Mae, public housing, and indigenous housing issues.

\*Members marked with an asterisk sit on the THUD Subcommittee.

### Majority Members (Democrats)

- Patty Murray (WA),\* *Chair*
- Brian Schatz (HI),\* *Subcommittee Chair*
- Dianne Feinstein (CA)\*
- Richard Durbin (IL)\*
- Jack Reed (RI)\*
- Jon Tester (MT)
- Jeanne Shaheen (NH)
- Jeff Merkley (OR)
- Chris Coons (DE)\*
- Tammy Baldwin (WI)

- Chris Murphy (CT)\*
- Joe Manchin (WV)\*
- Chris Van Hollen (MD)\*
- Martin Heinrich (NM)
- Gary Peters (MI)

#### **Minority Members (Republicans)**

- Susan Collins (ME),\* *Ranking Member*
- Cindy Hyde-Smith (MS),\* *Subcommittee Ranking Member*
- Mitch McConnell (KY)
- Lisa Murkowski (AK)
- Lindsey Graham (SC)\*
- Jerry Moran (KS)\*
- John Hoeven (ND)\*
- John Boozman (AR)\*
- Shelley Moore Capito (WV)\*
- John Kennedy (LA)\*
- Bill Hagerty (TN)
- Katie Britt (AL)
- Marco Rubio (FL)
- Deb Fischer (NE)

## **SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

*Visit the committee's website at [www.finance.senate.gov](http://www.finance.senate.gov).*

The Senate Committee on Finance oversees matters related to taxation and other general revenue measures, including health programs under the “Social Security Act” such as Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children’s Health Insurance Program, as well as TANF and health and human services programs financed by a specific tax or trust fund. The Low Income Housing Tax Credit falls within its jurisdiction.

#### **Majority Members (Democrats)**

- Ron Wyden (OR), *Chair*
- Debbie Stabenow (MI)
- Maria Cantwell (WA)

- Robert Menendez (NJ)
- Thomas Carper (DE)
- Ben Cardin (MD)
- Sherrod Brown (OH)
- Michael Bennet (CO)
- Bob Casey (PA)
- Mark Warner (VA)
- Sheldon Whitehouse (RI)
- Maggie Hassan (NH)
- Catherine Cortez Masto (NV)
- Elizabeth Warren (MA)

#### **Minority Members (Republicans)**

- Mike Crapo (ID), *Ranking Member*
- Chuck Grassley (IA)
- John Cornyn (TX)
- John Thune (SD)
- Tim Scott (SC)
- Bill Cassidy (LA)
- James Lankford (OK)
- Steve Daines (MT)
- Todd Young (IN)
- John Barrasso (WY)