

# Congressional Advocacy and Key Housing Committees

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**L**obbying Congress is a direct way to advocate for the issues and programs important to you. Members of Congress are accountable to their constituents and as a constituent, you have the right to lobby the members who represent you. As a housing advocate, you should exercise that right.

## CONTACT YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS

To find the contact information for your Member of Congress, visit NLIHC's congressional directory at <http://capwiz.com/nlihc/dbq/officials>, or call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121.

## MEETING WITH YOUR MEMBER 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 lobby effectively, refer to the lobbying section of 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 December 1, 2019. For all committees, members are listed in order of seniority and members who sit on key housing subcommittees are marked with an asterisk (\*).

## 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 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 (Democrats)

- Maxine Waters (CA), *Chair*
- Carolyn B. Maloney\* (NY)
- Nydia M. Velázquez\* (NY)
- Brad Sherman\* (CA)
- Gregory Meeks (NY)
- David Scott (GA)
- Al Green\* (TX)
- Emanuel Cleaver\* (MO), *Subcommittee Chair*
- Ed Perlmutter (CO)
- Jim A. Himes (CT)
- Bill Foster (IL)
- Joyce Beatty\* (OH)
- Juan Vargas\* (CA)
- Josh Gottheimer (NJ)
- Vicente Gonzalez\* (TX)
- Al Lawson\* (FL)
- Michael San Nicolas (GU)
- Cindy Axne\* (IA)
- Sean Casten (IL)
- Ayanna Pressley (MA)
- Ritchie Torres\* (NY)
- Stephen F. Lynch (MA)
- Alma Adams (NC)
- Rashida Tlaib (MI)
- Madeline Dean (PA)
- Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY)
- Jesús “Chuy” García (IL)
- Sylvia Garcia (TX)
- Nikema Williams (GA)

- Jake Auchincloss (MA)

### Minority Members (Republicans)

- Patrick McHenry (NC), *Ranking Member*
- Frank D. Lucas (OK)
- Bill Posey\* (FL)
- Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO)
- Bill Huizenga\* (MI)
- Steve Stivers\* (OH), *Subcommittee Ranking Member*
- Ann Wagner (MO)
- Andy Barr (KY)
- Roger Williams (TX)
- French Hill (AR)
- Tom Emmer (MN)
- Lee M. Zeldin\* (NY)
- Barry Loudermilk (GA)
- Alexander X. Mooney (WV)
- Warren Davidson (OH)
- Ted Budd (NC)
- David Kustoff (TN)
- Trey Hollingsworth\* (IN)
- Anthony Gonzalez (OH)
- John Rose\* (TN)
- Bryan Steil\* (WI), *Subcommittee Vice Ranking Member*
- Lance Gooden\* (TX)
- William Timmons (SC)
- Van Taylor\* (TX)

## 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 (Democrats)**

- Rosa DeLauro (CT), *Chair*
- Marcy Kaptur (OH)
- David Price\* (NC), *Subcommittee Chair*
- Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA)
- Sanford Bishop (GA)
- Barbara Lee (CA)
- Betty McCollum (MN)
- Tim Ryan (OH)
- C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger (MD)
- Debbie Wasserman Shultz (FL)
- Henry Cuellar (TX)
- Chellie Pingree (ME)
- Mike Quigley\* (IL)
- Derek Kilmer (WA)
- Matt Cartwright (PA)
- Grace Meng (NY)
- Mark Pocan (WI)
- Katherine Clark\* (MA)
- Pete Aguilar\* (CA)
- Lois Frankel (FL)
- Cheri Bustos (IL)
- Bonnie Watson Coleman\* (NJ)
- Brenda Lawrence\* (MI)
- Norma Torres\* (CA)
- Charlie Crist (FL)
- Ann Kirkpatrick (AZ)
- Ed Case (HI)

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

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

- Kay Granger (TX), *Ranking Member*
- Harold Rogers (KY)
- Robert Aderholt (AL)
- Michael Simpson (ID)
- John Carter (TX)
- Ken Calvert (CA)
- Tom Cole (OK)
- Mario Diaz-Balart\* (FL), *Subcommittee Ranking Member*
- Steve Womack\* (AR)
- Jeff Fortenberry (NE)
- Charles Fleischmann (TN)
- Jamie Herrera Beutler (WA)
- David Joyce (OH)
- Andy Harris (MD)
- Mark Amodei (NV)
- Chris Stewart (UT)
- Stephen Palazzo (MS)
- David Valadao (CA)
- Dan Newhouse (WA)
- John Moolenaar (MI)
- John Rutherford\* (FL)
- Ben Cline (VA)
- Guy Reschenthaler (PA)
- Mike Garcia\* (CA)
- Ashley Hinson\* (IA)
- Tony Gonzales\* (TX)

## 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.

### Majority Members (Democrats)

- Richard Neal (MA), *Chair*
- Lloyd Doggett (TX)
- Mike Thompson (CA)
- John Larson (CT)
- Earl Blumenauer (OR)
- Ron Kind (WI)
- 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)
- Brendan Boyle (PA)
- Don Beyer (VA)
- Dwight Evans (PA)
- Brad Schneider (IL)
- Tom Suozzi (NY)
- Jimmy Panetta (CA)
- Stephanie Murphy (FL)
- Jimmy Gomez (CA)
- Steven Horsford (NV)

- Stacey E. Plaskett (VI)

### Minority Members (Republicans)

- Kevin Brady (TX), *Ranking Member*
- Devin Nunes (CA)
- Vern Buchanan (FL)
- Adrian Smith (NE)
- Kenny Marchant (TX)
- Tom Reed (NY)
- Mike Kelly (PA)
- George Holding (NC)
- Jason Smith (MO)
- Tom Rice (SC)
- David Schweikert (AZ)
- Jackie Walorski (IN)
- Darin LaHood (IL)
- Brad Wenstrup (OH)
- Jodey Arrington (TX)
- Drew Ferguson (GA)
- Ron Estes (KS)

## 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*
- Jack Reed\* (RI)
- Robert Menendez\* (NJ)
- Jon Tester\* (MT)
- Mark Warner (VA)
- Elizabeth Warren (MA)
- Chris Van Hollen\* (MD)
- Catherine Cortez Masto\* (NV)
- Tina Smith\* (MN), *Subcommittee Chair*
- Kyrsten Sinema (AZ)
- Jon Ossoff\* (GA)
- Raphael Warnock\* (GA)

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

- Patrick Toomey (PA), *Ranking Member*
- Richard Shelby\* (AL)
- Mike Crapo (ID)
- Tim Scott (SC)
- Mike Rounds\* (SD), *Subcommittee Ranking Member*
- Thom Tillis (NC)
- John Kennedy (LA)
- Bill Hagerty\* (TN)
- Cynthia Lummis\* (WY)
- Jerry Moran\* (KS)
- 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)**

- Patrick Leahy (VT), *Chair*
- Patty Murray\* (WA)
- Dianne Feinstein\* (CA)
- Richard Durbin\* (IL)
- Jack Reed\* (RI)
- Jon Tester (MT)
- Jeanne Shaheen (NH)
- Jeff Merkley (OR)
- Chris Coons\* (DE)
- Brian Schatz\* (HI), *Subcommittee Chair*
- Tammy Baldwin (WI)
- Christopher Murphy\* (CT)
- Joe Manchin\* (WV)
- Chris Van Hollen\* (MD)
- Martin Heinrich (NM)

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

- Richard Shelby\* (AL), *Ranking Member*
- Mitch McConnell (KY)
- Susan Collins\* (ME), *Subcommittee Ranking Member*
- Lisa Murkowski (AK)

- Lindsey Graham\* (SC)
- Roy Blunt\* (MO)
- Jerry Moran (KS)
- John Hoeven\* (ND)
- John Boozman\* (AR)
- Shelley Moore Capito\* (WV)
- John Kennedy\* (LA)
- Cindy Hyde-Smith (MS)
- Mike Braun\* (IN)
- Bill Hagerty (TN)
- Marco Rubio (FL)

## 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.

### Majority Members (Democrats)

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

- Thomas Carper (DE)
- Benjamin 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)

- Chuck Grassley (IA), *Ranking Member*
- John Cornyn (TX)
- John Thune (SD)
- Richard Burr (NC)
- Rob Portman (OH)
- Patrick Toomey (PA)
- Tim Scott (SC)
- Bill Cassidy (LA)
- James Lankford (OK)
- Steve Daines (MT)
- Todd Young (IN)
- Ben Sasse (NE)
- John Barrasso (WY)