

Ensuring NAHMA Members Receive the Latest News and Analysis of Breaking Issues in Affordable Housing

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Committee Assignments for the 114th Congress

Background

Members of the 114th Congress were officially sworn in to office on January 6, 2015. The preceding election in November of 2014 resulted in the Republican Party winning many key Senate races, thus placing its members in the majority for both chambers. With this new majority in the Senate, the leadership positions and member roster will change for all 12 of the committees and the corresponding subcommittees. In the House of Representatives, the Republicans increased their majority control by acquiring additional seats. Fewer changes occurred at the committee/subcommittee level when compared to the Senate because the party control has not changed in the House.

Highlighted within this NAHMAnalysis are the chair and ranking member positions for each committee and subcommittee with some form of oversight of affordable housing programs. These individuals are important because the chair sets the committee agenda for hearings, and determines priorities in legislation. It is important to note that some of the finalized leadership positions are different from previous NAHMAnalysis predictions. Additionally, a complete list of members for each of these committees has been included.

House Leadership

114th Congress Speaker of the House: John Boehner

John Boehner has retained his position as Speaker of the House for his third term. The Speaker controls the agenda for the House, and is also third in line of succession for the Presidency. The Speaker of the House's election is the first order of business in any new Congress, and Boehner received 216 votes for the 114th Congress.

114th Congress Majority Leader: Kevin McCarthy (R-CA)

The Majority Leader schedules votes on the House floor, and is charged with making sure the proverbial "trains run on time." He will oversee the day-to-day operations of the legislative agenda and has major influence in his or her party.

Representative Kevin McCarthy was elected by his fellow House Republicans to the Majority Leader position in June of 2014 after Eric Cantor (R-VA), the former House Majority Leader in the 113th Congress, lost his primary for reelection to a Republican challenger.

114th Congress Minority Leader: Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)

The Minority Leader is the recognized leader of the party with fewer members. While he or she has no power in setting the agenda, the minority leader may work closely with leaders in the majority party to ensure that provisions important to the interests of the minority party are included in legislation.

Nancy Pelosi has been elected again by the Democratic caucus for this position in the 114th Congress. She previously served as Speaker of the House from 2007 to 2011.

Senate Leadership

Majority Leader: Mitch McConnell (R-KY)

In the Senate, an individual becomes majority leader if he or she was elected by the most Senators caucusing, or aligning themselves, with his party. The Senate Majority Leader is a position recognized by tradition rather than a full vote by the Senate. The Senate Majority Leader's job is to set the agenda for this chamber and to decide what business comes to the Senate floor, and when it will receive votes.

Mitch McConnell was elected by other Republican senators to take the position after the party's sweeping election victories that placed them in control of the Senate. He previously served as the Minority leader from 2007 to 2014.

Minority Leader: Harry Reid (D-NV)

The Senate Minority leader is the recognized head of his or her party. He is generally the person who tries to ensure that his party members get an opportunity to vote on desired amendments, and negotiates time agreements on debate and amendments with the Majority Leader.

Harry Reid has been elected by his fellow Democrats to now take the Minority Leader position. He served as Majority Leader from 2007 to 2014.

House Committees

The two major political parties have their own rules for choosing a committee chairman. Seniority is one of several factors considered when determining committee leadership in the House, particularly for the House Republican Conference. The Republicans also have a term limit of six years for their chairmen. These committee chairs control the legislative agenda, schedule, and enjoy subpoena power. They are exclusively members of the majority party while the Ranking Members of the committees are from the minority party. Ranking Members do not control the agenda or schedule of the committees, but they can be influential in crafting legislation and choosing witnesses at hearings.

House Appropriations Committee

114th Congress Chairman: Harold Rogers (R-KY) 114th Congress Ranking Member: Nita Lowey (D-NY)

- 114th Congress T-HUD Subcommittee Chairman: Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL) 114th Congress T-HUD Subcommittee Ranking Member: David Price (D-NC)
- 114th Congress Agriculture Subcommittee Chairman: Robert Aderholt (R-AL) 114th Congress Agriculture Subcommittee Ranking Member: Sam Farr (D-CA)

The Appropriations Committee is typically seen as the most powerful committee as its members decide how much money federal programs will receive each year and how the agencies will use that money. Its jurisdiction is limited to funding discretionary programs; it does not fund entitlements such as Social Security or Medicare/Medicaid. Harold Rogers (R-KY) will retain the Chair position for this Committee. Rogers became the chair of this committee in 2011, so he will reach the term limit at the end of the 114th Congress. Ranking Member Nita Lowey will continue to serve in her position as the top committee Democrat.

The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (T-HUD) Subcommittee is responsible for funding HUD programs. This Subcommittee experienced major changes in its leadership for the 114th Congress as the former Chairman Tom Latham (R-IA) and the former Ranking Member Ed Pastor (D-AZ) both announced their retirement at the end of the 113th Congress. The next most senior Republican member, Frank Wolf (VA), also retired. In a surprising move, Appropriations Chair Hal Rogers selected Representative Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL) to take on the Chairman role, despite him not serving on the T-HUD Subcommittee in the 113th Congress.

The Subcommittee on Agriculture funds USDA-Rural Housing Service (RHS) programs. There was no change to the leadership of this subcommittee. Robert Aderholt (R-AL) will continue his role as Chairman while Sam Farr (D-CA) will continue as the Ranking Member.

NAHMA's main concern for these committees in the coming weeks is the appropriations figures for fiscal year 2016. While FY 2015 does not end until September 30, 2015, the President's FY 2016 proposed budget will be issued on February 2nd. Afterwards the members of the Appropriations and House Budget Committees will then soon begin work on their own budget and funding legislation. It is critical that NAHMA and its members advocate for full-funding in the Project-Based Section 8 (PBS8) program and other assisted housing programs during this time.

PBS8 will need at least a \$1.1 billion increase in FY 2016. NAHMA understands that obtaining any increases in funding for multifamily housing programs—particularly the Project-Based Section 8 program—in the 114th Congress will be incredibly difficult. The amount of appropriations available will be constrained each year for the next several fiscal years, as required by the discretionary spending caps in the Budget Control Act. Nevertheless, we remain committed to working with the Obama Administration and Congress to ensuring full-funding for all rental assistance programs and protecting the funding of all other programs that support multifamily housing.

House Financial Services Committee

114th Congress Chairman: Jeb Hensarling (R-TX)
114th Congress Ranking Member: Maxine Waters (D-CA)

114th Congress Insurance, Housing, and Community Opportunity Subcommittee Chairman: Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO) 114th Congress Housing and Insurance Subcommittee Ranking Member: Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO)

The House Financial Services Committee and its subcommittees have general oversight responsibility of HUD and the Rural Housing Service. As the appropriate "authorizing committee" for housing issues, consideration of most new housing-related legislation in the House begins here.

Jeb Hensarling (R-TX) will remain the chairman, while Representative Maxine Waters will retain her ranking member position. She has been a strong supporter of affordable housing programs, and has worked with NAHMA on a number of important issues.

Hensarling has selected Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO) to chair the Housing and Insurance Subcommittee. Representative Waters has selected Emanuel Cleaver to become the next ranking member. This Subcommittee has oversight of affordable housing programs and legislation; Ranking Member Cleaver is a strong advocate for housing programs, including those administered by the USDA-Rural Development.

NAHMA expects that the House Financial Services Committee priorities for housing programs in the 114th Congress will be similar to those of the 113th Congress. NAHMA believes the Committee will continue to pursue improving FHA solvency, winding down Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and comprehensive housing finance reform.

Ways and Means Committee

114th Congress Chairman: Paul Ryan (R-WI) 114th Congress Ranking Member: Sander Levin (D-MI)

This is the tax-writing committee and the authorizing committee for entitlement programs such as Social Security, Medicare, etc. Legislation to amend the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program falls under the jurisdiction of this committee.

Former House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI) was selected by his caucus to take the reins of the Ways and Means Committee after Chairman David Camp (R-MI) announced his retirement. Sander Levin (D-MI) will retain the ranking member position in the 114th Congress.

Based on statements from Representative Ryan, NAHMA believes the Ways and Means Committee will focus on overhauling the U.S. tax code, trade policies, and reforms to entitlement programs such as Medicare and Medicaid.

Senate Committees

The Senate generally recognizes that the member of the majority party with the most seniority on a committee becomes chairman. Likewise, the member of the minority party who has the most seniority on the committee often becomes the ranking member.

The leadership of every committee in the Senate changed as a result of the 2014 elections. For some committees, the chair and ranking member positions simply reversed. Retirements and lost reelection bids caused others to completely change.

Appropriations Committee

- 114th Congress Chairman: Thad Cochran (R-MS)
- 114th Congress Ranking Member: Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)
- 114th Congress T-HUD Subcommittee Chairman: Susan Collins (R-ME) 114th Congress T-HUD Subcommittee Ranking Member: Jack Reed (D-RI)
- 114th Congress Agriculture Subcommittee Chairman: Jerry Moran (R-KS)
- 114th Congress Agriculture Subcommittee Ranking Member: Jeff Merkley (D-OR)

Like its House counterpart, the Senate Appropriations Committee decides how much money federal programs receive, and how it should be spent. The subcommittees noted fund HUD and USDA-RHS programs.

Mississippi Senator Thad Cochran has returned as the chairman for the Senate Appropriations Committee. He previously served as the chairman from 2005 to 2007 and then as ranking member before he reached the maximum number of years he could serve in the position under current Senate Republican rules. Former Chair Barbara Mikulski will switch roles to become the ranking member.

Susan Collins (R-ME) reversed her ranking member position on the T-HUD Subcommittee to become the chair. Collins has been excellent advocate for the project-based Section 8 program. The former chair of this subcommittee, Patty Murray (D-WA), will not be returning as ranking member. Instead, Rhode Island Senator Jack Reed will take the position.

Kansas Senator Jerry Moran is now the chairman for the Agriculture Subcommittee while Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) has become the ranking member. This Subcommittee had a substantial reorganization for the Democrats as former Chairman Mark Pryor (D-AR) as well as Mark Udall (D-CO) lost their reelection bid, and Tom Harkin (IA) and Tim Johnson (SD) retired.

As with the House Appropriations Committee, NAHMA will continue to work with the Senate appropriators to ensure full-funding for PBS8 contracts and adequate funding for all other affordable housing programs in the new Congress.

Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs Committee

- 114th Congress Chairman: Richard Shelby (R-AL)
- 114th Congress Ranking Member: Sherrod Brown (D-OH)
- 114th Congress Housing, Transportation, and Community Development Subcommittee Chairman: Tim Scott (R-SC)
- 114th Congress Housing, Transportation, and Community Development Subcommittee Ranking Member: Robert Menendez (D-NJ)

The Banking Committee is the Senate counterpart to the House Financial Services Committee. The Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation is the counterpart to the House Insurance, Housing, and Community Opportunity Subcommittee.

Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL) assumed the chairman position after serving as ranking member for the Senate Appropriations Committee. Former chairman of the Senate Banking Committee

Tim Johnson (D-SD) announced his retirement from Congress at the end of the 113th session. Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown will take the reigns as ranking member.

Before the elections, Chairman Johnson and former Ranking Member Mike Crapo (R-ID) had been working on a housing finance reform bill, S.1217, which was considered one of leading bills on the subject. There is currently no indication if Senator Shelby will continue to pursue passage of S.1217 as he was not a cosponsor for the bill.

Finance Committee

114th Congress Chairman: Orrin Hatch (R-UT) 114th Congress Ranking Member: Ron Wyden (D-OR)

This is the Senate counterpart to the House Ways and Means Committee. The Finance Committee has jurisdiction for LIHTC bills and all other tax legislation.

Senators Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) reversed their chair and ranking member positions in this committee. Tax reform will likely dominate the Senate Finance Committee's agenda for the 114th Congress and it has quickly begun work on this issue. The committee has announced it will launch five separate bipartisan Finance Committee Tax Working Groups to spur congressional comprehensive tax reform efforts in the 114th Congress. "The groups will analyze current tax law and examine policy trade-offs and available reform options within the group's designated topic areas. Each group will be co-chaired by one Republican and one Democrat member," a press release said. The working groups include: 1) Individual Income Tax; 2) Business Income Tax; 3) Savings & Investment; 4) International Tax; and 5) Community Development & Infrastructure.

Full Committee Membership

On the following pages are compiled lists of the entire member roster for the committees and subcommittees previously mentioned.

House of Representatives

Appropriations

Republicans	Democrats
Harold Rogers (KY) Chair	Nita Lowey (NY) Ranking Member
 Robert Aderholt (AL) 	Sanford Bishop (GA)
 Mark Amodei (NV) 	Henry Cuellar (TX)
 Kenneth Calvert (CA) 	Rosa DeLauro (CT)
 John Carter (TX) 	Sam Farr (CA)
 Tom Cole (OK) 	Chaka Fattah (PA)
 Ander Crenshaw (FL) 	Michael Honda (CA)
 John Culberson (TX) 	Steve Israel (NY)
 Charles Dent (PA) 	Marcia Kaptur (OH)
 Mario Diaz-Balart (FL) 	Derek Kilmer (WA)
 Charles Fleischmann (TN) 	Barbara Lee (CA)
 Jeff Fortenberry (NE) 	Betty McCollum (MN)
 Rodney Frelinghuysen (NJ) 	Chellie Pingree (ME)
 Kay Granger (TX) 	David Price (NC)
 John Graves (GA) 	 Michael Quigley (IL)
 Andrew Harris (MD) 	 Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA)
 Jaime Herrera Beutler (WA) 	 Charles Ruppersberger (MD)
Evan Jenkins (WV)	Timothy Ryan (OH)
 David Jolly (FL) 	 José Serrano (NY)
 David Joyce (OH) 	 Peter Visclosky (IN)
 Patrick Nunnelee (MS) 	 Debbie Wasserman Schultz (FL)
 Edward Rigell (VA) 	
 Martha Roby (AL) 	
 Thomas Rooney (FL) 	
 Michael Simpson (ID) 	
 Chris Stewart (UT) 	
 David Valadao (CA) 	
 Stephen Womack (AR) 	
 Kevin Yoder (KS) 	
 David Young (IA) 	

Appropriations – Agriculture Subcommittee

Republicans	Democrats
• Robert Aderholt (AL), Chair	Sam Farr (CA), Ranking Member
 Andrew Harris (MD) 	 Sanford Bishop (NY)
 Patrick Nunnelee (MS) 	Rosa DeLauro (CT)
 Harold Rogers (KY) 	Nita Lowey (NY)
 Thomas Rooney (FL) 	Chellie Pingree (ME)
 David Valadao (CA) 	
Kevin Yoder (KS)	
 David Young (AK) 	

Appropriations – Transportation, Housing and Urban Development

Republicans	Democrats
Mario Diaz-Balart (FL), Chair	David Price (NC), Ranking Member
John Culberson (TX)	Henry Cuellar (TX)
Kay Granger (TX)	Nita Lowey (NY)
David Jolly (FL)	Michael Quigley (IL)
David Joyce (OH)	Timothy Ryan (OH)
Harold Rogers (KY)	
David Valadao (CA)	
Kevin Yoder (KS)	

Republicans	Democrats
Jeb Hensarling (TX), Chair	Maxine Waters (CA), Ranking Member
 Garland Barr (KY) 	Joyce Beatty (OH)
Robert Dold (IL)	Michael Capuano (MA)
Sean Duffy (WI)	John Carney (DE)
 Stephen Fincher (TN) 	William Clay (MO)
 Michael Fitzpatrick (PA) 	Emanuel Cleaver (MO)
 Scott Garrett (NJ) 	John Delaney (MD)
 Frank Guinta (NH) 	G. Foster (IL)
 J. French Hill (AR) 	Al Green (TX)
 William Huizenga (MI) 	Dennis Heck (WA)
 Randall Hultgren (IL) 	James Himes (CT)
Robert Hurt (VA)	 Rubén Hinojosa (TX)
Peter King (NY)	Daniel Kildee (MI)
 Ludmya Love (UT) 	Stephen Lynch (MA)
 Frank Lucas (OK) 	 Carolyn Maloney (NY)
 Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO) 	Gregory Meeks (NY)
 Kevin McCarthy (CA) 	Gwen Moore (WI)
 Patrick McHenry (NC) 	Patrick Murphy (FL)
Allen Messer (IN)	Edwin Perlmutter (CO)
 John Mulvaney (SC) 	David Scott (GA)
 Robert Neugebauer (TX) 	Terry Sewell (AL)
 Stevan Pearce (NM) 	Brad Sherman (CA)
 Robert Pittenger (NC) 	Kyrsten Sinema (AZ)
Bruce Poliquin (ME)	 Juan Vargas (CA)
 William Posey (FL) 	Nydia Velázquez (NY)
 Dennis Ross (FL) 	Keith Ellison (MN)
 Keith Rothfus (PA) 	
 Edward Royce (CA) 	
 David Schweikert (AZ) 	
 Steve Stivers (OH) 	
 Marlin Stutzman (IN) 	
 Scott Tipton (CO) 	
 Ann Wagner (MO) 	
 Lynn Westmoreland (GA) 	
 John Williams (TX) 	

Housing and Insurance Subcommittee

Republicans	Democrats
Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO), Chair	Emanuel Cleaver (MO), Ranking Member
Garland Barr (KY)	Joyce Beatty (OH)
Robert Dold (IL)	Michael Capuano (MA)
Scott Garrett (NJ)	William Clay (MO)
 Jeb Hensarling (TX) 	Al Green (TX)
Robert Hurt (VA)	Daniel Kildee (MI)
Stevan Pearce (NM)	Gwen Moore (WI)
Dennis Ross (FL)	Nydia Velázquez (NY)
Keith Rothfus (PA)	Maxine Waters (CA)
Edward Royce (CA)	Keith Ellison (MN)
Steve Stivers (OH)	
Lynn Westmoreland (GA)	
John Williams (TX)	

Ways and Means Committee

Republicans	Democrats
Paul Ryan (WI), Chair	Sander Levin (MI), Ranking Member
Diane Black (TN)	Xavier Becerra (CA)
Charles Boustany (LA)	Earl Blumenauer (OR)
Kevin Brady (TX)	 Joseph Crowley (NY)
Vernon Buchanan (FL)	Danny Davis (IL)
George Holding (NC)	Lloyd Doggett (TX)
Lynn Jenkins (KS)	Ron Kind (WI)
Sam Johnson (TX)	John Larson (CT)
George Kelly (PA)	 John Lewis (GA)
Kenny Marchant (TX)	 James McDermott (WA)
Patrick Meehan (PA)	Richard Neal (MA)
Kristi Noem (SD)	William Pascrell (NJ)
Devin Nunes (CA)	Charles Rangel (NY)
Erik Paulsen (MN)	Linda Sánchez (CA)
Thomas Price (GA)	Michael Thompson (CA)
Thomas Reed (NY)	
David Reichert (WA)	
James Renacci (OH)	
Peter Roskam (IL)	
Aaron Schock (IL)	
Adrian Smith (NE)	
Jason Smith (MO)	
Patrick Tiberi (OH)	
Todd Young (IN)	

Senate Committees

Appropriations

Republicans	Democrats
Thad Cochran (MS), Chair	Barbara Mikulski (MD), Ranking Member
 Lamar Alexander (TN) 	Tammy Baldwin (WI)
Roy Blunt (MO)	Christopher Coons (DE)
John Boozman (AR)	Richard Durbin (IL)
Shelley Capito (WV)	Dianne Feinstein (CA)
William Cassidy (LA)	Patrick Leahy (VT)
Susan Collins (ME)	Jeff Merkley (OR)
Steve Daines (MT)	Christopher Murphy (CT)
Lindsey Graham (SC)	Patty Murray (WA)
John Hoeven (ND)	Jack Reed (RI)
Mark Kirk (IL)	Brian Schatz (HI)
 James Lankford (OK) 	Jeanne Shaheen (NH)
Mitch McConnell (KY)	Jon Tester (MT)
Jerry Moran (KS)	Thomas Udall (NM)
Lisa Murkowski (AK)	
Richard Shelby (AL)	

Agriculture Subcommittee

Republicans	Democrats
 Jerry Moran (KS), Chair 	 Jeff Merkley (OR), Ranking Member
 Roy Blunt (MO) 	Dianne Feinstein CA
Thad Cochran (MS)	Barbara Mikulski (MD)
 Susan Collins (ME) 	 Jon Tester (MT)
 John Hoeven (ND) 	Thomas Udall (NM)
 Mitch McConnell (KY) 	

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee

Republicans	Democrats
Susan Collins (ME), Chair	 Jack Reed (RI), Ranking Member
 Lamar Alexander (TN) 	Richard Durbin (IL)
Roy Blunt (MO)	Dianne Feinstein (CA)
John Boozman (AR)	Patrick Leahy (VT)
Thad Cochran (MS)	Barbara Mikulski (MD)
Lindsey Graham (SC)	Patty Murray (WA)
Mark Kirk (IL)	Thomas Udall (NM)

- Jerry Moran (KS)
- Richard Shelby (AL)

Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs

Republicans	Democrats
Richard Shelby (AL), Chair	Sherrod Brown (OH), Ranking Member
Bob Corker (TN)	 Joseph Donnelly (IN)
Thomas Cotton (AR)	Heidi Heitkamp (ND)
Michael Crapo (ID)	Robert Menendez (NJ)
Dean Heller (NV)	Jeff Merkley (OR)
Mark Kirk (IL)	Jack Reed (RI)
Jerry Moran (KS)	Charles Schumer (NY)
Michael Rounds (SD)	Jon Tester (MT)
Ben Sasse (NE)	Mark Warner (VA)
Tim Scott (SC)	Elizabeth Warren (MA)
Patrick Toomey (PA)	
David Vitter (LA)	

Housing, Transportation and Community Development Subcommittee

Republicans	Democrats
• Tim Scott (SC), Chairman	Robert Menendez (NJ), Ranking Member
 Mike Crapo (ID) 	Jack Reed (RI)
 Dean Heller (NV) 	Charles Schumer (NY)
Jerry Moran (KS)	 Jon Tester (MT)
 Bob Corker (TN) 	 Jeff Merkley (OR)
 Tom Cotton (AR) 	 Heidi Heitkamp (ND)
 Mike Rounds (SD) 	 Joe Donnelly (IN)
 David Vitter (LA) 	