

Chronology

79TH CONGRESS (1945–1947)

Senate Republicans: 38; Democrats: 57
Republican Minority Leader: Wallace H. White, Jr.
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Robert Taft
Legislative Reorganization Act proposes creating Policy Committees;
House objects
Senate Policy Committees established in Legislative Appropriations Act
Republicans win majorities in both the Senate and House, 1946
Senate Policy Committee holds first meeting (December 31, 1946)



Sen. White (R-ME).

80TH CONGRESS (1947–1949)

Senate Republicans: 51 (gain of 13); Democrats: 45
Republican Majority Leader: Kenneth S. Wherry
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Robert Taft
Republican Policy Committee begins keeping a “Record Vote Analysis” of Senate votes
Harry Truman reelected President, 1948

81ST CONGRESS (1949–1951)

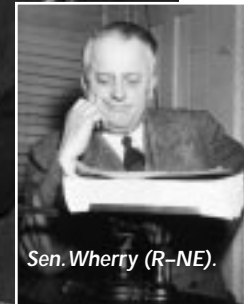
Senate Republicans: 42 (loss of 9, loss of majority); Democrats: 54
Republican Minority Leader: Kenneth S. Wherry
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Robert Taft



Sen. Taft (R-OH).



*Sen. Vandenberg (R-MI), President Truman,
Sen. Connally (D-TX), and Secretary of
State Byrnes.*



Sen. Wherry (R-NE).

82ND CONGRESS (1951–1953)

Senate Republicans: 47 (gain of 5); Democrats: 49
Republican Minority Leader: Kenneth S. Wherry
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Robert Taft
Kenneth Wherry dies (November 29, 1951); Styles Bridges elected Minority Leader
Robert Taft loses the Republican presidential nomination to General Dwight Eisenhower
Dwight Eisenhower elected President, Republicans win majorities in Senate and House, 1952

83RD CONGRESS (1953–1955)

Senate Republicans: 48 (gain of 1); Democrats: 47; Independent: 1
Republican Majority Leader: Robert Taft
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: William Knowland
Robert Taft dies (July 31, 1953); William Knowland elected Majority Leader
Homer Ferguson elected chairman of the Policy Committee

84TH CONGRESS (1955–1957)

Senate Republicans: 47 (loss of 1, loss of majority); Democrats: 49
Republican Minority Leader: William Knowland
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Styles Bridges
Weekly Policy Committee lunches begin (January 17, 1956)



Sen. Knowland
(R-CA).



Sen. Ferguson
(R-MI).



Republican Conference.



President and Mrs. Eisenhower.



Sen. Taft (R-OH).



85TH CONGRESS (1957–1959)

Senate Republicans: 47; Democrats: 49
Republican Minority Leader: William Knowland
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Styles Bridges

*Sen. Bridges
(R-NH).*



86TH CONGRESS (1959–1961)

Senate Republicans: 35 (loss of 12); Democrats: 65
Republican Minority Leader: Everett Dirksen
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Styles Bridges
Everett Dirksen holds regular press conferences following
the Policy Committee lunches
John Kennedy elected president, 1960



*Senators Kennedy
(D-MA), and Saltonstall
(R-MA).*

87TH CONGRESS (1961–1963)

Senate Republicans: 36 (gain of 1); Democrats: 64
Republican Minority Leader: Everett Dirksen
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Styles Bridges
Styles Bridges dies (November 26, 1961)
Bourke Hickenlooper elected chairman of the Republican Policy Committee



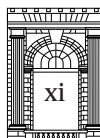
*Secretary of Senate Trice, Sen.
Sparkman (D-AL), Sen. Green
(D-RI), Sen. Bridges (R-NH),
House Speaker Rayburn
(D-TX), Rep. McCormack
(D-MA), and Rep. Martin
(R-MA).*



Sen. Hickenlooper (R-IA).



*Senators Young (R-ND), Dirksen (R-IL), Saltonstall (R-MA),
Hickenlooper (R-IA), and Kuchel (R-CA).*



88TH CONGRESS (1963–1965)

Senate Republicans: 34 (loss of 2); Democrats: 66
Republican Minority Leader: Everett Dirksen
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Bourke Hickenlooper
President Kennedy assassinated; Lyndon Johnson becomes president, 1963

89TH CONGRESS (1965–1967)

Senate Republicans: 32 (loss of 2); Democrats: 68
Republican Minority Leader: Everett Dirksen
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Bourke Hickenlooper

90TH CONGRESS (1967–1969)

Senate Republicans: 36 (gain of 4); Democrats: 64
Republican Minority Leader:
Everett Dirksen
Republican Policy Committee
Chairman: Bourke Hickenlooper
Richard Nixon elected president,
1968



Republican Class of 1966, Senators Brooke (R-MA), Griffin (R-MI), Percy (R-IL), Hatfield (R-OR), Hansen (R-WY), Baker (R-TN).



Republican Conference.



Senators Dirksen (R-IL) and Johnson (D-TX).



President Nixon and Sen. Dirksen (R-IL).



Senators Dirksen (R-IL) and Hickenlooper (R-IA).

91ST CONGRESS (1969–1971)

Senate Republicans: 43 (gain of 7); Democrats: 57
Republican Minority Leader: Everett Dirksen
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Gordon Allott

Everett Dirksen dies (September 7, 1969)
Hugh Scott elected Republican Minority Leader

92ND CONGRESS (1971–1973)

Senate Republicans: 45 (gain of 2); Democrats: 55
Republican Minority Leader: Hugh Scott
Republican Policy Committee Chairman:
Gordon Allott

93RD CONGRESS (1973–1975)

Senate Republicans: 43 (loss of 2);
Democrats: 57
Republican Minority Leader: Hugh Scott
Republican Policy Committee Chairman:
John Tower
President Nixon resigns; Gerald Ford becomes
president, 1974



Sen. Allott (R-CO).



Senators Dirksen (R-IL) and Allott (R-CO).



*President Ford and
Sen. Scott (R-PA).*



President Nixon lunches with Congressional leaders.



*Senators Tower (R-TX) and
Scott (R-PA).*

94TH CONGRESS (1975–1977)

Senate Republicans: 39 (loss of 4); Democrats 61
Republican Minority Leader: Hugh Scott
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: John Tower
Jimmy Carter elected president, 1976



*Senators Young (R-ND),
Baker (R-TN), and Tower (R-TX).*

95TH CONGRESS (1977–1979)

Senate Republicans: 38 (loss of 1); Democrats: 62
Republican Minority Leader: Howard Baker
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: John Tower

96TH CONGRESS (1979–1981)

Senate Republicans: 41 (gain of 3); Democrats: 59
Republican Minority Leader: Howard Baker
Republican Policy Committee
Chairman: John Tower
Ronald Reagan elected president,
1980

Republicans win majority in the
Senate; Democrats retain
majority in House, 1980



*Presidents Reagan and Carter with
Vice Presidents Bush and Mondale.*



*Senate Republican Leaders, Senators Stevens (R-AK),
Baker (R-TN), Young (R-ND), Packwood (R-OR), Tower (R-TX),
Garn (R-UT), and Heinz (R-PA).*



*President Carter with Senators Baker (R-TN),
Stevens (R-AK), and Cranston (D-CA).*



97TH CONGRESS (1981–1983)

Senate Republicans: 53 (gain of 12); Democrats: 47
Republican Majority Leader: Howard Baker
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: John Tower

98TH CONGRESS (1983–1985)

Senate Republicans: 54 (gain of 1); Democrats: 46
Republican Majority Leader: Howard Baker
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: John Tower
Republican Policy Committee reconstituted to include the chairs or ranking members of each standing committee

99TH CONGRESS (1985–1987)

Senate Republicans: 53 (loss of 1); Democrats: 47
Republican Majority Leader: Robert Dole
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: William Armstrong

100TH CONGRESS (1987–1989)

Senate Republicans: 45 (loss of 8, loss of majority);
Democrats: 55
Republican Minority Leader: Robert Dole
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: William Armstrong
Republican Policy Committee launches RPC-TV on Senate cable system
George Bush elected President, 1988



Sen. Dole (R-KS), Vice President Bush, President and Mrs. Reagan, and House Speaker O'Neill.



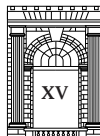
Sen. Baker (R-TN) and Ambassador to Japan Mansfield.



Senators Tower (R-TX), Baker (R-TN), Hatch (R-UT), Lugar (R-IN), Dole (R-KS), Wallop (R-WY), and Helms (R-NC).



Sen. Tower (R-TX).



101ST CONGRESS (1989–1991)

Senate Republicans: 45; Democrats: 55
Republican Minority Leader: Robert Dole
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: William Armstrong

102ND CONGRESS (1991–1993)

Senate Republicans: 44 (loss of 1); Democrats: 56
Republican Minority Leader: Robert Dole
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Don Nickles
William Clinton elected President, 1992

103RD CONGRESS (1993–1995)

Senate Republicans: 43 (loss of 1); Democrats: 57
Republican Minority Leader: Robert Dole
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Don Nickles
Republicans recapture majorities in both the Senate and House, 1994

Senate Republican Leadership, Senators Thurmond (R-SC), Cochran (R-MS), Simpson (R-WY), Dole (R-KS), Chafee (R-RI), Armstrong (R-CO), and Nickles (R-OK).



Sen. Nickles
(R-OK).



Sen. Armstrong
(R-CO).



President Bush accepts a symbolic gift from Policy Committee Chairman Nickles.



104TH CONGRESS

(1995–1997)

Senate Republicans: 54 (gain of 9); Democrats: 46
 Republican Majority Leader: Robert Dole
 Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Don Nickles
 Senate and House Republican Policy Committees hold joint hearings and issue joint publications
 Robert Dole resigns as Majority Leader (June 11, 1996) to become Republican presidential candidate
 Trent Lott elected Majority Leader
 Don Nickles elected Assistant Majority Leader
 Larry Craig elected chairman of the Republican Policy Committee
 Republicans retain the majority in the Senate and House, 1996



Sen. Dole (R-KS) on his last day as a Senator.

105TH CONGRESS

(1997–1999)

Senate Republicans: 55 (gain of 1); Democrats 45
 Republican Majority Leader: Trent Lott
 Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Larry Craig



Sen. Craig (R-ID).



Sen. Lott (R-MS).



Republican Class of 1996, Senators Hagel (R-NE), Enzi (R-WY), Hutchinson (R-AR), Sessions (R-AL), Collins (R-ME), Roberts (R-KS), Allard (R-CO), Brownback (R-KS), and Smith (R-OR).



New Senate leadership lineup following Senator Dole's retirement.



Policy Committee Staff Director Jade West.