

# Chronology

## 79<sup>TH</sup> 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).*

## 80<sup>TH</sup> 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

## 81<sup>ST</sup> CONGRESS (1949–1951)

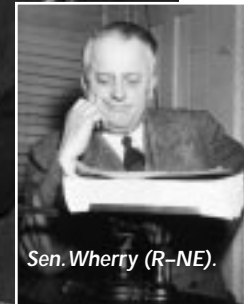
Senate Republicans: 42 (loss of 9, loss of majority); Democrats: 54  
Republican Minority Leader: Kenneth S. Wherry  
Republican Policy Committee Chairman: Robert Taft



*Sen. Taft (R-OH).*



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



*Sen. Wherry (R-NE).*

# 82<sup>ND</sup> 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

# 83<sup>RD</sup> 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

# 84<sup>TH</sup> 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).



## 85<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS (1957–1959)

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

*Sen. Bridges  
(R-NH).*



## 86<sup>TH</sup> 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).*

## 87<sup>TH</sup> 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).*

## 88<sup>TH</sup> 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

## 89<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS (1965–1967)

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

## 90<sup>TH</sup> 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).*

# 91<sup>ST</sup> 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

# 92<sup>ND</sup> CONGRESS

(1971–1973)

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

# 93<sup>RD</sup> 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).

## 94<sup>TH</sup> 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).*

## 95<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS (1977–1979)

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

## 96<sup>TH</sup> 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).*



## 97<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS (1981–1983)

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

## 98<sup>TH</sup> 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

## 99<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS (1985–1987)

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

## 100<sup>TH</sup> 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.*



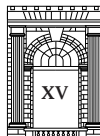
*Sen. Baker (R-TN) and Ambassador to Japan Mansfield.*



*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).*



# 101<sup>ST</sup> CONGRESS (1989–1991)

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

# 102<sup>ND</sup> 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

# 103<sup>RD</sup> 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.





# 104<sup>TH</sup> 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.*

# 105<sup>TH</sup> 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.*