

Introduction

March 6, 2008, marks the 141st anniversary of the creation of the Committee on Appropriations of the United States Senate. In that time, the 289 members of the Committee, led by 25 different chairmen, have helped guide the financial operations of the United States Government through times of war and peace, depression and prosperity, constitutional crisis and political tranquility. The Committee's work has affected the lives and well-being of every American and the welfare of countless millions around the world.

The information in this publication will be useful to the members of the Committee, the Congress generally, and students of Government interested in the development and functioning of the Congressional appropriations process.

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