

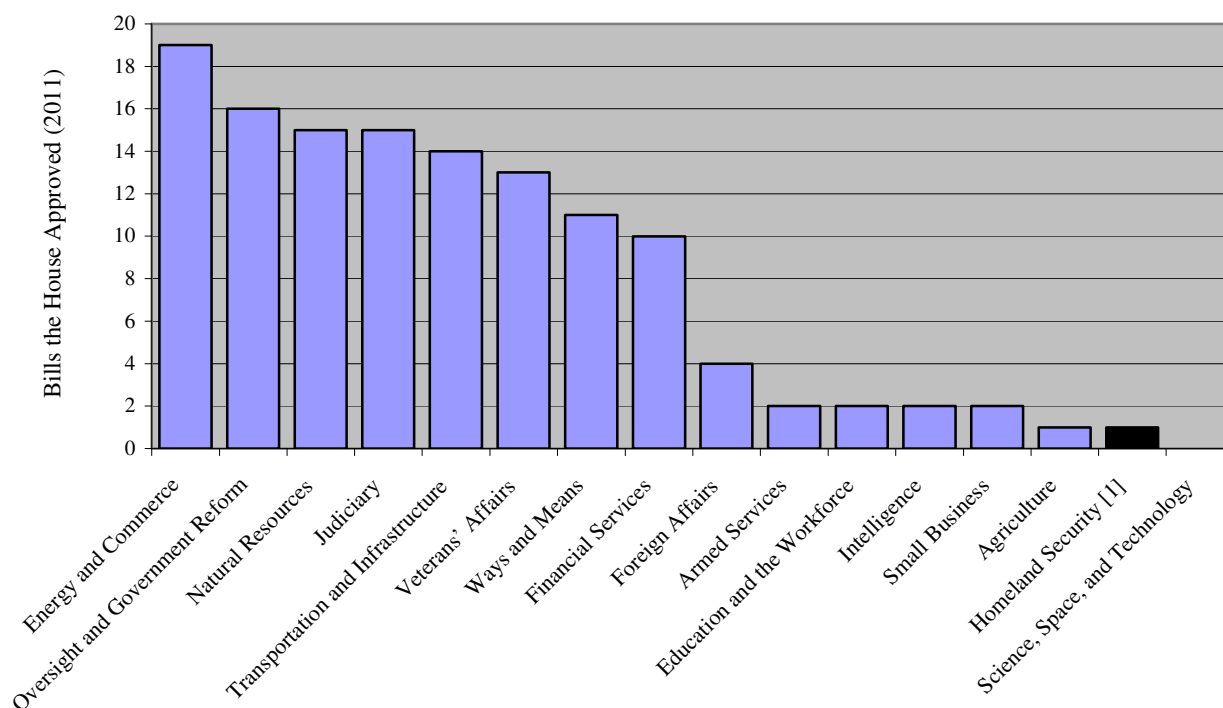
Ten Months of Republican Rule

No Progress on Homeland Security

Compiled by the Democratic Staff of the Committee on Homeland Security
November 2011

During the first ten months of the 112th Congress, the Committee on Homeland Security, under Republican leadership, has been a near non-presence on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. As of November 1, only one House-approved bill was submitted by the Committee on Homeland Security.¹ As reflected in Table 1, this weak record stands in stark contrast to the records of most House authorizing committees. As shown below, the Committee on Homeland Security is tied for second to last in legislative productivity.

Table 1: Number of bills, by Committee, that the House approved (Jan.-Oct. 2011)²

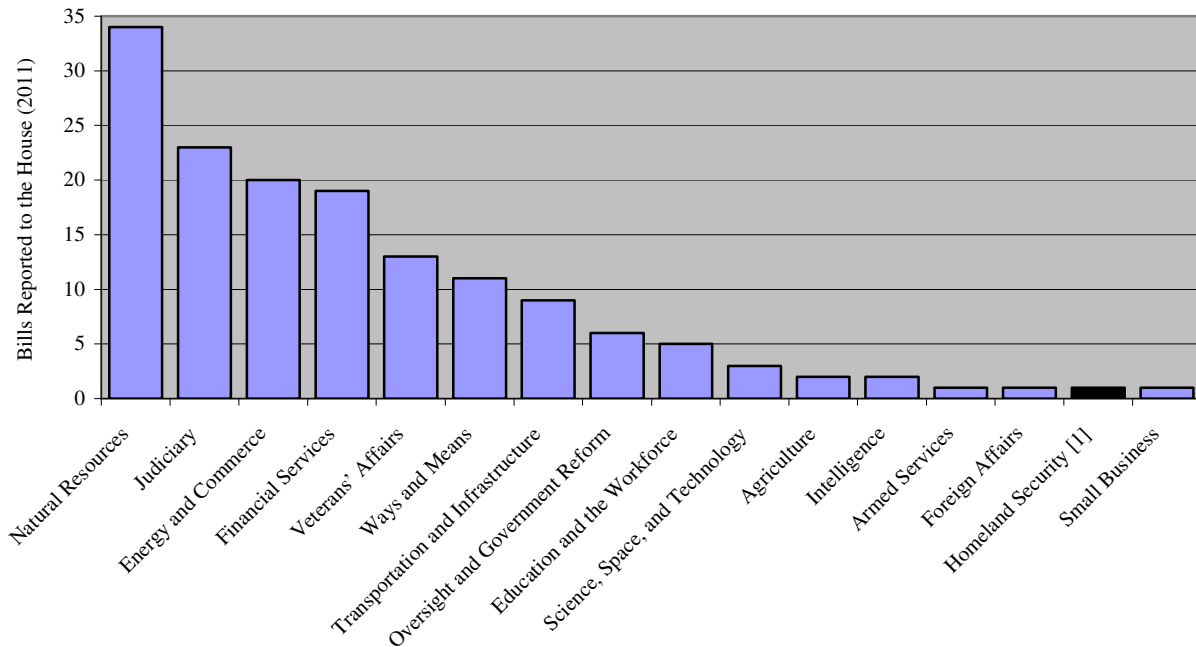


While no committee controls the House calendar, each has the obligation to produce legislation that is responsive to its oversight findings and report such legislation to the House for consideration by the full House of Representatives. Table 2 illustrates how many bills each committee has reported to the House over the past 10 months of this Congress. As shown in black, the Committee on Homeland Security is, *again*, tied for second to last. The one reported bill, H.R. 901, was reported to the House on September 26th and has not received further consideration.

¹ H.R. 2042, the “Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards Act” was discharged, at the request of House Leadership. The Committee did not hold a single hearing or mark up on this bill.

² Data used to determine bills reported and passed by the House were identified by conducting a Legislative Information Service (<http://www.congress.gov/>) search for reported and House passed bills. Data for House passed bills excludes resolutions and initial additional referrals--commonly referred to as secondary referrals. Data for reported bills excludes resolutions. The numbers in this document are up-to-date as of November 1, 2011.

Table 2: Number of bills, by Committee, reported to the House (Jan.-Oct. 2011)



The level of legislative activity for the Committee in the 112th Congress also stands in significant contrast to its level of legislative activity in the two previous Congresses. As shown in Table 3, the level of legislative activity for the Committee under Democratic leadership (110th and 111th Congresses) exceeded the level under the current Committee leadership by a rate of 7 to 1 for the same time frame (bills listed with asterisks also became public laws).

Table 3: Number of Committee on Homeland Security bills approved by the House (Jan.-Oct.)

	<u>110th Congress</u> (Jan.-Oct. 2007)	<u>111th Congress</u> (Jan.-Oct. 2009)	<u>112th Congress</u> (Jan.-Oct. 2011)
1.	H.R. 1: Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act*	H.R. 549: National Bombing Prevention Act	H.R. 2042: Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Travel Cards Act
2.	H.R. 599 (An act to streamline the SAFETY Act)*	H.R. 553: Reducing Over-Classification Act*	
3.	H.R. 884: PACTS Act	H.R. 559: Fair, Accurate, Secure and Timely Redress Act	
4.	H.R. 1401: Rail and Public Transportation Security Act	H.R. 730: Nuclear Forensics and Attribution Act*	
5.	H.R. 1680: Secure Handling of Ammonium Nitrate Act*	H.R. 1148 (An act to require the mobile biometric identification to enhance border security)	
6.	H.R. 1684: Department of Homeland Security Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008	H.R. 1617: Department of Homeland Security Component Privacy Officer Act	
7.	H.R. 1955: Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act	H.R. 2200: Transportation Security Administration Authorization Act	