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Overview: The 110th Congress

January 10, 2007

Leadership in the 110th Congress

» Democratic Leadership in the House

Position	110 th Congress
Speaker of the House	Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)
House Majority Leader	Steny Hoyer (D-MD)
House Majority Whip	James Clyburn (D-SC)
Democratic Caucus Chair	Rahm Emanuel (D-IL)
Democratic Conference Vice Chair	John Larson (D-CT)
Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee Chair	Rahm Emanuel (D-IL)
Democratic Steering Committee Co-Chairs	Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and George Miller (D-CA)

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Leadership in the 110th Congress

» Republican Leadership in the House

Position	110 th Congress
House Minority Leader	John Boehner (R-OH)
House Minority Whip	Roy Blunt (R-MO)
Republican Conference Chair	Adam Putnam (R-FL)
Republican Policy Committee Chair	Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI)
Republican Conference Vice-Chair	Kay Granger (R-TX)
Republican Conference Secretary	John Carter (R-TX)
National Republican Congressional Committee Chair	Tom Cole (R-OK)

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Democratic Leadership Dynamics

- » The California delegation will prove extremely powerful
 - » Speaker Nancy Pelosi (CA-08)
 - » Committee Chairs
 - » Education and Labor: George Miller (CA-07)
 - » Oversight and Government Reform: Henry Waxman (CA-30)
 - » House Administration: Juanita Millender-McDonald (CA-37)
 - » Foreign Affairs: Tom Lantos (CA-12)
 - » Veterans' Affairs: Bob Filner (CA-51)
- » Speaker Pelosi will have to balance a diverse House
 - » Conservative "Blue Dogs" will play an important role in Democratic Caucus
 - » Many moderate-to-conservative Democrats won in Republican-leaning districts
 - » Progressive Black Caucus (42 Members) and Hispanic Caucus (21 Members in the 109th) will be a powerful counterbalance to the more conservative wing of the Democratic Caucus
 - » Loss of moderate Republicans could make consensus more difficult

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Committee Leadership in the 110th

» House Committee Leadership

Committee	Chair (D)	Ranking Member (R)	Staff Director
Agriculture	Collin Peterson (MN)	Bob Goodlatte (VA)	<i>Rob Larew</i>
Appropriations	David Obey (WI)	Jerry Lewis (CA)	<i>Robert Nabors</i>
Armed Services	Ike Skelton (MO)	Duncan Hunter (CA)	<i>Erin C. Conaton</i>
Budget	John Spratt (SC)	Paul Ryan (WI)	<i>Thomas S. Kahn</i>
Education and Labor	George Miller (CA)	Howard "Buck" McKeon (CA)	<i>Mark Zuckerman</i>
Energy and Commerce	John Dingell (MI)	Joe Barton (TX)	<i>Dennis Fitzgibbons</i>
Financial Services	Barney Frank (MA)	Spencer Bachus (AL)	<i>Jeanne Roslanowick</i>
Foreign Affairs	Tom Lantos (CA)	Ilena Ros-Lehtinen (FL)	<i>Robert King</i>
Homeland Security	Bennie Thompson (MS)	Peter King (NY)	<i>Jessica Herrera-Flanigan</i>
House Administration	Juanita Millender-McDonald (CA)	Vernon Ehlers (MI)	<i>George Shevlin</i>
Judiciary	John Conyers (MI)	Lamar Smith (TX)	<i>Perry Apelbaum</i>
Natural Resources	Nick Rahall (WV)	Don Young (AK)	<i>Jim Zoia</i>

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Committee Leadership in the 110th

» House Committee Leadership, cont'd

Committee	Chair (D)	Ranking Member (R)	Staff Director
Oversight and Government Reform	Henry Waxman (CA)	Tom Davis (VA)	<i>Philip Schilliro</i>
Rules	Louise Slaughter (NY)	David Dreier (CA)	<i>John Daniel</i>
Science and Technology	Bart Gordon (TN)	Ralph Hall (TX)	<i>Chuck Atkins</i>
Small Business	Nydia Velazquez (NY)	Steve Chabot (OH)	<i>Michael Day</i>
Standards of Official Conduct	Stephanie Tubbs Jones (OH)	Richard "Doc" Hastings (WA)	<i>William O'Reilly</i>
Transportation and Infrastructure	Jim Oberstar (MN)	John Mica (FL)	<i>David Heymsfeld</i>
Veterans' Affairs	Bob Filner (CA)	Steve Buyer (IN)	<i>Malcom A. Shorter</i>
Ways and Means	Charlie Rangel (NY)	Jim McCrery (LA)	<i>Janice A. Mays</i>
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence	Silvestre Reyes (TX)	Pete Hoekstra (MI)	<i>Mike Delaney</i>
Joint Economic	Carolyn Maloney (NY)	Jim Saxton (NJ)	<i>Chad Stone</i>

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Leadership in the 110th Congress

» Democratic Leadership in the Senate

Position	Senator
Majority Leader and Democratic Conference Chair	Harry Reid (D-NV)
Assistant Majority Leader	Dick Durbin (D-IL)
Vice Chairman of the Democratic Conference and Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee Chair	Charles Schumer (D-NY)
Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee Chair	Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)
Democratic Conference Secretary	Patty Murray (D-WA)
Democratic Policy Committee Chair	Byron Dorgan (D-ND)
Committee Outreach Chair	Jeff Bingaman (D-NM)
Committee Outreach Vice-Chair	Hillary Clinton (D-NY)
Rural Outreach Chair	Blanche Lincoln (D-AR)
Chief Deputy Whip	Barbara Boxer (D-CA)
Deputy Whips	Russell Feingold (D-WI), Bill Nelson (D-FL), and Thomas Carper (D-DE)

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Leadership in the 110th Congress

» Republican Leadership in the Senate

Position	Senator
Senate Minority Leader	Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
Senate Minority Whip	Trent Lott (R-MS)
Republican Policy Committee Chair	Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX)
Republican Steering Committee Chair	Jim DeMint (R-SC)
Republican Conference Vice-Chair	John Cornyn (R-TX)
Republican Conference Vice-Chair	Jon Kyl (R-AZ)
National Republican Senatorial Committee Chair	John Ensign (R-NV)

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Committee Leadership in the 110th

» Senate Committee Leadership

Committee	Chair (D)	Ranking Member (R)	Staff Director
Aging	Herb Kohl (WI)	Gordon Smith (OR)	<i>Julie Cohen</i>
Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry	Tom Harkin (IA)	Saxby Chambliss (GA)	<i>Mark Halverson</i>
Appropriations	Robert Byrd (WV)	Thad Cochran (MS)	<i>Terrence Sauvain</i>
Armed Services	Carl Levin (MI)	John McCain (AZ)	<i>Richard DeBobes</i>
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs	Chris Dodd (CT)	Richard Shelby (AL)	<i>Shawn Maher</i>
Budget	Kent Conrad (ND)	Judd Gregg (NH)	<i>Mary Naylor</i>
Commerce, Science, and Transportation	Daniel Inouye (HI)	Ted Stevens (AK)	<i>Margaret Cummisky</i>
Energy and Natural Resources	Jeff Bingaman (NM)	Pete Domenici (NM)	<i>Bob Simon</i>
Environment and Public Works	Barbara Boxer (CA)	James Inhofe (OK)	<i>Bettina Poirier</i>
Finance	Max Baucus (MT)	Charles Grassley (IA)	<i>Russ Sullivan</i>

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Committee Leadership in the 110th

» Senate Committee Leadership, cont'd

Committee	Chair (D)	Ranking Member (R)	Staff Director
Foreign Relations	Joe Biden (DE)	Richard Lugar (IN)	<i>Antony Blinken</i>
Health, Education, Labor and Pensions	Ted Kennedy (MA)	Michael Enzi (WY)	<i>J. Michael Myers</i>
Homeland Security and Government Affairs	Joe Lieberman (CT)	Susan Collins (ME)	<i>Michael Alexander</i>
Joint Economic	Charles Schumer (NY)	Sam Brownback (KS)	<i>Chad Stone</i>
Judiciary	Patrick Leahy (VT)	Arlen Specter (PA)	<i>Bruce Cohen</i>
Rules and Administration	Dianne Feinstein (CA)	Bob Bennett (UT)	<i>Howard Gantman</i>
Small Business and Entrepreneurship	John Kerry (MA)	Olympia Snowe (ME)	<i>Naomi Baum</i>
Veterans' Affairs	Daniel Akaka (HI)	Larry Craig (ID)	<i>William Brew</i>
Indian Affairs	Byron Dorgan (ND)	Craig Thomas (WY)	<i>Sara Garland</i>
Ethics	Tim Johnson (SD)	John Cornyn (TX)	<i>Robert Walker</i>
Intelligence	Jay Rockefeller (WV)	Kit Bond (MO)	<i>Andrew Johnson</i>

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Democratic Leadership Agenda

- » Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) and Rep. Pelosi promoting “New Direction for America”
 - » Real security at home and overseas; Better American jobs (better pay); College access for all; Energy independence (lower gas prices); Affordable health care (life-saving science); Retirement security and dignity
- » Issues to watch for in the 110th Congress:
 - » Oversight Authority
 - » Foreign Policy/National Security
 - » Challenging Administration policies (e.g., reducing U.S. war role in Iraq)
 - » Energy and Environment
 - » Alternative energy; reducing dependence on foreign oil
 - » Global climate change (CO₂ emissions)
 - » Health Care
 - » Medicare reform (government negotiations with pharmaceuticals to lower drug prices)
 - » Trade
 - » Trade Promotion Authority
 - » Tougher on China
 - » Transportation
 - » Rail competition

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Democratic Leadership Agenda

- » Senate Majority Leader Reid's legislative priorities in the 110th Congress:
 - » Finalize FY07 Appropriations Bills
 - » Ethics reform
 - » Increase minimum wage
 - » Funding for stem-cell research
- » House Speaker Pelosi's legislative priorities in the 110th Congress:
 - » Finalize FY07 Appropriations Bills
 - » Increase minimum wage
 - » Overhaul House lobbying rules
 - » Enact recommendations of 9/11 Commission
 - » Cut student loan interest rates
 - » Lower Medicare drug costs
 - » Broaden stem-cell research
 - » Reform education funding
 - » Pass labor reform legislation (Employee Free Choice Act)

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Democratic Leadership Agenda

- » House Schedule for the “First Hundred Hours”
 - » Tuesday, January 9
 - » Implement the 9/11 Commission Recommendations
 - » Wednesday, January 10
 - » Increase the Minimum Wage
 - » Thursday, January 11
 - » Expand Stem Cell Research
 - » Friday, January 12
 - » Allow Negotiation for Lower Prescription Drug Costs
 - » Wednesday, January 17
 - » Cut Interest Rates on Student Loans
 - » Thursday, January 18
 - » End Subsidies for Oil and Invest in Renewable Energy

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » Democrats have floated numerous policy proposals in some key areas:
 - » Budget/Taxes
 - » Trade
 - » Finance
 - » Energy
 - » Environment
 - » Health Care
 - » Workforce/Education
 - » Telecommunications
 - » Agriculture
 - » National Security/Defense
 - » Judiciary
 - » Lobby Reform

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » Budget/Taxes
 - » Democrats pledge they will seek return to balanced budgets
 - » More oversight and hearings
 - » Higher domestic spending coupled with more “modest” tax-cut policies and return to “pay as you go” budget enforcement rules
 - » Comprehensive tax reform/simplification unlikely
 - » Continuation of middle-income tax cuts (set to expire in 2010); alternative minimum tax reform; extension of some business-friendly provisions (e.g., research and development credit)
 - » May repeal/let expire other tax cuts geared toward wealthier tax payers (e.g., lower rates on capital gains and dividends) to pay for other priorities
 - » Increase in domestic spending (e.g., health care, environment, education)
 - » Administration proposals for Social Security and Medicare reform unlikely

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » Trade
 - » More aggressive oversight of Administration and the WTO, particularly WTO dispute settlement proceedings
 - » May extend President's trade agreement negotiating authority
 - » As part of a broader trade and competitiveness package, or
 - » For Doha alone, should the talks resume and make progress
 - » Would complicate path of Administration's bilateral trade agreements
 - » Would strengthen U.S. trade laws
 - » Countervailing duties against imports from non-market economies
 - » Chinese currency manipulation
 - » Look for divisiveness within Democratic party and its traditional allies

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

» Financial Services

- » On the House side, Chair Barney Frank has outlined several priorities
 - » More affordable housing (work with Ways and Means on housing tax credit)
 - » Less predatory lending
 - » Stronger consumer protections
 - » Stricter ownership of industrial loan companies
 - » Fair capital rules (e.g., Basel II)
 - » More shareholder control over executive pay
- » Look for a fair amount of bipartisan cooperation under Chairman Frank
- » Jurisdictional conflict with Chairman Dingell (Energy and Commerce)
- » Insurance industry reform
 - » Lack of uniformity at federal level and no federal regulator liabilities to US
 - » Terrorism risk insurance program
 - » Flood insurance
- » Regulatory cooperation with the EU
- » Oversight
 - » Hedge fund, reinsurance, and credit card industries
 - » Sen. Talent amendment regarding lending to military
 - » Bankruptcy legislation
 - » Sarbanes-Oxley

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

» Energy

- » Expanded push for renewable energy and energy efficiency
 - » Stand alone legislation not ruled out, but best bet might be in energy section of farm bill
 - » Rep. Hoyer's (D-MD) bill from the 109th may be used as template
 - » Establish a national commission to develop energy security goals and an expedited schedule for legislative action
 - » Commit \$500m+ annually for alternative fuels and vehicle technology
 - » Reimburse the private sector for investing in biofuels infrastructure
 - » Invest in a freight rail system to transport biofuels
 - » Increase requirements for alternative fuel use in federal fleets
 - » Legislation would also draw from Rep. Herseth's (D-SD) bill in the 109th
 - » Increase biofuels mandate
 - » Expand number of vehicles that can run on ethanol
 - » Increase the number of E-85 pumps
 - » Encourage research and development into new biofuel technologies
 - » Provide financing incentives for cooperative and independent biofuel plants

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » Energy, cont'd
 - » More scrutiny of oil and gas industry
 - » Price gouging
 - » Curb financial incentives for oil industry (e.g., royalty relief)
 - » Use savings to establish dedicated fund to promote renewable energy and conservation
 - » On the Senate side, Sen. Bingaman expected to push bipartisan plan to:
 - » Reduce government's petroleum consumption by 20% in 5 years and 40% in 2020
 - » Set goals that 10% of gas stations offer alternative fuels by 2015 and that 25% of new vehicles sold in US by 2010 be equipped with flexible fuel technology
 - » Extension of a series of renewable production tax credits likely
 - » Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) also a likely issue

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » Energy, cont'd
 - » Growing public desire to increase energy independence – likely one of the most salient issues in the next election and beyond – is driven by three main concerns:
 - » National security
 - » Environment
 - » Economy
 - » More talk about solutions, but many question political achievability
 - » Increasing the gas tax
 - » Offset impact with reduction in other taxes?
 - » Timing right as Americans have grown accustomed to higher prices at the pump
 - » Oil import fee
 - » Tougher fuel economy standards
 - » Nationwide ceiling on gas consumption
 - » Further support for alternative fuel sources
 - » \$45 price floor for crude oil (Sen. Lugar proposal) to stimulate production and use of alternative fuel sources

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

» Environment

- » Climate change
 - » Growing bipartisan cooperation; likely to remain a priority for years to come
 - » Legislative “solution” to global climate change likely; reducing greenhouse gas emissions is a main priority for a number of relevant Committee leaders
 - » Senate Committee Chairs Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), and Joseph Lieberman (I-CT) have written a letter to the President signaling their intentions to “work to pass an effective system of mandatory limits on greenhouse gases” in the 110th Congress
 - » Rep. John Dingell (D-MI), Chair of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA), Chair of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, have demonstrated interests
 - » Bush Administration’s opposition to mandatory controls will be an issue
- » Reinstatement of Superfund Taxes
- » Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA)
- » Emerging issue of children’s health and its relation to the environment

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

» Environment, cont’d

- » Fisheries
 - » The House Committee on Natural Resources is likely to pursue agenda favored by environmental groups
 - » Chair Nick J. Rahall II (D-WV) has proposed legislation to reform Regional Fishery Management Councils to strengthen conflict of interest rules and increase representation of conservation interests in fishery regulatory process. Also increases the role of “science” in regulations.
 - » Strict rebuilding timeframes
 - » “Payback” for quota overages
 - » Decreased management flexibility
 - » The Senate is likely to remain bipartisan and relatively consistent with current approach
 - » Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-HI) and Sen. Ted Stevens (R-AK) have close working relationship
 - » Fewer Appropriations riders dealing with fisheries issues
 - » Decreased emphasis on Alaskan issues
 - » Possibility of Magnuson-Stevens Act fisheries reauthorization bill largely mirroring Senate Bill in 109th Congress

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

» Health Care

- » While expanded health care coverage and lowering the number of uninsured are party priorities, sweeping changes may be difficult in the 110th
 - » Look for gradual expansion of access to health insurance coverage
- » Overturn ban on government negotiation of lower prescription drug prices for Medicare recipients
- » Boosting the generic drug industry to combat rising health care costs
- » Fix the “doughnut hole” in Medicare prescription drug coverage
- » Stem cell research
 - » President vetoed it in July 2006
- » Closer scrutiny of company marketing practices, including off-label promotion of drugs for conditions for which they have not been approved
- » Reduce “over-payment” of insurance companies
- » Oversight
 - » Medicare Part D and Part B programs
 - » FDA and drug safety
 - » Dietary supplement industry
 - » Ethics issues at the National Institutes of Health

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

» Workforce

- » Increasing the minimum wage is a top priority for Democrats
- » Labor reform legislation likely
 - » Employer Fair Choice Act
- » Workplace safety issues would also be a priority
 - » Mine safety
 - » Greater penalties for employers who violate worker safety laws

» Education

- » Lower interest rates on student loans
 - » Impose maximum loan repayment amount and loan forgiveness for public sector employees of 10 years or greater
- » Increase maximum Pell Grant award
- » Reauthorize No Child Left Behind
 - » Greater focus on school improvement

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » Telecommunications
 - » Sweeping telecom/media reforms unlikely
 - » Recent wave of deregulation will slow
 - » Much less likely to see efforts to repeal pro-competitive provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996
 - » Greater oversight at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
 - » Potential legislative issues that may resurface include:
 - » Universal service reform
 - » Spectrum reform
 - » Privacy

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » Agriculture
 - » Major goal is to rewrite/expand 2002 farm bill which expires September 30, 2007
 - » House Agriculture Committee Chair Collin Peterson (D-MN) may push to extend the 2002 bill with only slight modifications
 - » Permanent disaster aid program to end reliance on supplemental appropriations
 - » Continuation of Conservation Reserve Program
 - » Ranking Member Goodlatte (R-VA) favors a comprehensive rewrite of the bill
 - » On the Senate side, more bipartisan cooperation
 - » Chair Tom Harkin (D-IA) oversaw the writing of the 2002 bill and Ranking Member Saxby Chambliss (R-GA) favors extension of the current bill
 - » Look for regional differences to be a big factor
 - » Committees may also address food safety

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » National Security
 - » Enacting 9/11 Commission recommendations a top priority
 - » Increase funding for rail and transit security, maritime security, the Coast Guard, and first responders
 - » Prevent outsourcing of critical U.S. infrastructure to foreign interests
 - » Greater Oversight of Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS)
 - » Boost number of border security and Customs agents
- » Defense
 - » Democrats are not expected to lower overall defense spending
 - » Unlikely that they will use spending bills to change policy
 - » No drastic funding cuts for Afghanistan and/or Iraq
 - » Likely to limit cuts to systems they've traditionally questioned (e.g., missile defense), but even those will not be gutted
 - » Will continue to push for "change of course" in Iraq
 - » Troop withdrawals; begin to transfer security to Iraqi forces
 - » Oversight investigations
 - » Weapons systems, Iraq war contracting

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » Judiciary
 - » Efforts to overhaul tort system will slow
 - » Greater copyright enforcement
 - » Greater anti-trust oversight
 - » Possible repeal of antitrust exemption for insurance industry (specifically medical malpractice)
 - » Overhaul of patent system
 - » Make it easier for high-tech and financial service firms to protect and obtain patents

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » House Rules Changes: Ethics
- » In the opening days of the 110th, the House approved the following rules changes
 - » Bans meals and gifts from lobbyists and organizations that employ them
 - » Gift exceptions remain
 - » Bans lobbyists from planning, organizing, requesting, financing, arranging, or participating in travel for Members or staff
 - » Bans organizations that employ or retain lobbyists from financing privately-funded travel
 - » Exception for one-day events and colleges and universities
 - » Requires sponsors of permitted travel to (1) certify that they have abided by restrictions on lobbyist involvement and (2) obtain pre-approval from the Ethics Committee
 - » Provisions take effect March 1, 2007
 - » Prohibits use of official, personal, or campaign funds to pay for the use of non-commercial corporate jets
 - » Ends the K Street Project
 - » Mandates annual ethics training for all “appropriate” House employees

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » Other House Rules Changes
 - » Requires full disclosure of earmarks in all bills and conference reports before Members are asked to vote on them
 - » Applies to limited tax benefits and limited tariff benefits
 - » Also prohibits any Member from conditioning inclusion of an earmark based upon how a Member voted
 - » Reinstates PAYGO offset requirements for new tax cuts or entitlement programs
 - » “Civility Title” requires that votes not be held open “for the sole purpose of reversing the outcome of such vote” and requires “full and open” debate in House-Senate Conferences
 - » Renames several House Committees
 - » Foreign Relations (formerly International Relations)
 - » Education and Labor (formerly Education and the Workforce)
 - » Natural Resources (formerly Resources)
 - » Science and Technology (formerly Science)
 - » Oversight and Government Reform (formerly Government Reform)

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Issue Priorities in the 110th Congress

- » Democratic Committee Chairs have laid out a host of issues on which they intend to challenge the Administration
 - » Democratic leadership will have veto power over committee probes
 - » The Oversight and Government Reform Committee will have authority to depose witnesses called to testify under oath
- » Potential oversight investigations or Congressional Inquiries:

Defense

Iraq Reconstruction
(contract abuse)
Weapons systems

Hurricane Katrina

Homeland Security

Patriot Act
Domestic wiretapping
Port security

Health Care

Medicare Part D and Part B
programs
FDA (drug safety)
Ethics issues at NIH

Environment/Energy

Climate change
Oil and gas price gouging
VP Cheney's energy task force
Yuca Mountain
Electricity Markets

Finance

Sarbanes-Oxley
Hedge fund industry
Reinsurance industry
Credit card industry

Telecommunications/Internet

Internet Security/Privacy
Major FCC issues, including mergers
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Bush Administration Priorities

- » With the last year of his second term likely to be eclipsed by the 2008 Presidential election, President Bush has one year to push forward his domestic agenda
- » Key policy objectives include:
 - » Gulf Coast reconstruction, reauthorization of No Child Left Behind, renewal of farm legislation, development of alternative energy supplies, immigration reform ("guest worker" program)
 - » All could attract Democratic support
 - » Extending tax cuts, Social Security reform more difficult under Democratic Congress
- » With Democrats controlling the House and Senate
 - » President may begin to use his veto authority more frequently
 - » In some instances, look for more cooperation across party lines
 - » President Bush's experience as Governor of Texas

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Bush Administration

» Any shake-ups in the last 2 years of the Bush Presidency?

Cabinet

Department	Secretary
Agriculture	Mike Johanns
Commerce	Carlos Gutierrez
Defense	Donald Rumsfeld replaced by former CIA Director Bob Gates
Education	Margaret Spellings
Energy	Samuel W. Bodman
Health and Human Services	Michael O. Leavitt
Homeland Security	Michael Chertoff
Housing and Urban Development	Alphonso Jackson
State	Condoleezza Rice
Transportation	Mary E. Peters
Treasury	Henry M. Paulson, Jr.
Veterans Affairs	Jim Nicholson

Cabinet Rank Members

Position	Name
Vice President	Dick Cheney
White House Chief of Staff	Josh Bolten
Director, Office of Management and Budget	Rob Portman
United States Trade Representative	Susan Schwab
Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency	Stephen Johnson
Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy	John Walters
Director of National Intelligence	John Negroponte replaced by former Navy Adm. John McConnell

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Bush Administration

» Executive Office of the President

Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff	Josh Bolten
Assistant to the President , Deputy Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor	Karl Rove
Counselor to the President	Dan Bartlett
Counsel to the President	Harriet Miers replaced by Fred Fielding
Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff	Joseph W. Hagin, II
Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy	Joel David Kaplan
Assistant to the President and Press Secretary	Tony Snow
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy	Karl Zinsmeister
Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Director, National Economic Council	Allan B. Hubbard
Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs	Candida Perotti Wolff
Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs	Stephen J. Hadley
Deputy to the President and Director of Political Affairs	Sara M. Taylor
Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality	James L. Connaughton
Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers	Edward P. Lazear

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Preview: 2008 Elections

- » Key questions going into 2008
 - » Will Democrats be united enough and have enough power to advance their comprehensive legislative agenda?
 - » Will one faction of the party dominate?
 - » Will President Bush and Congressional Republicans seek to work with Democrats on certain issues?
 - » Will the number of voters who identify themselves as independents continue to grow?
 - » How will key issues impact important demographic groups?
 - » Seniors and Medicare (especially prescription drug reform)
 - » Hispanics and immigration
 - » Middle-class and the economy
 - » Women and war/terrorism
 - » Will independents' strong preference for Democrats hold?
 - » How will technology continue to influence candidates and voters?

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Preview: 2008 Presidential Election

- » Big issues
 - » Foreign Policy/National Security
 - » Energy
 - » Health Care
- » Contenders (*candidates who have filed with the FEC are highlighted*)
 - » **Democrats:** Sen. Joe **Biden**, retired Gen. Wesley **Clark**, Sen. Hillary **Clinton**, Sen. Chris **Dodd**, former Sen. John **Edwards**, former Vice President Al **Gore**, Sen. John **Kerry**, Rep. Dennis **Kucinich**, Sen. Barack **Obama**, Gov. Bill **Richardson**, former Gov. Tom **Vilsack**
 - » **Republicans:** Sen. Sam **Brownback**, former Gov. Jim **Gilmore**, former House Speaker Newt **Gingrich**, former Mayor Rudolph **Giuliani**, Sen. Chuck **Hagel**, Gov. Mike **Huckabee**, Rep. Duncan **Hunter**, Sen. John **McCain**, Gov. George **Pataki**, Gov. Mitt **Romney**, former Gov. Tommy **Thompson**

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Preview: 2008 Senatorial Elections

» 33 Races: Seats held by 21 Republicans and 12 Democrats

Republicans Up for Re-Election

State	Incumbent
AL	Jeff Sessions
AK	Ted Stevens
CO	Wayne Allard
GA	Saxby Chambliss
ID	Larry Craig
KS	Pat Roberts
KY	Mitch McConnell
ME	Susan Collins
MN	Norm Coleman
MS	Thad Cochran
NE	Chuck Hagel

State	Incumbent
NH	John Sununu
NM	Pete Domenici
NC	Elizabeth Dole
OK	James Inhofe
OR	Gordon Smith
SC	Lindsey Graham
TN	Lamar Alexander
TX	John Cornyn
VA	John Warner
WY	Michael Enzi

Democrats Up for Re-Election

State	Incumbent
AR	Mark Pryor
DE	Joe Biden
IL	Richard Durbin
IA	Tom Harkin
LA	Mary Landrieu
MA	John Kerry
MI	Carl Levin
MT	Max Baucus
NJ	Frank Lautenberg
RI	Jack Reed
SD	Tim Johnson
WV	Jay Rockefeller

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2006 Election Results

2006 Election Results

- » The U.S. Senate is now controlled by the Democrats
 - » Current breakdown: 51 Democrats and 49 Republicans
- » The U.S. House of Representatives is now controlled by the Democrats
 - » Current breakdown: 233 Democrats and 202 Republicans
- » The majority of state Governorships are now held by Democrats
 - » Current breakdown: 28 Democrats and 22 Republicans

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2006 Election Results – U.S. Senate

- » Democrats have won control of the Senate

PARTY	TOTAL	GAIN/LOSS
Republicans	49	-6
Democrats*	51	+6

*Winning Independent candidates Joe Lieberman (CT) and Bernie Sanders (VT) will caucus with the Democrats

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2006 Election Results – U.S. Senate

» Senate Seat Changes:

STATE	INCUMBENT	NEW SENATOR
Maryland	OPEN SEAT [Sarbanes (D)]	Ben Cardin (D)
Missouri	Jim Talent (R)	Claire McCaskill (D)
Montana	Conrad Burns (R)	Jon Tester (D)
Ohio	Mike DeWine (R)	Sherrod Brown (D)
Pennsylvania	Rick Santorum (R)	Bob Casey (D)
Rhode Island	Lincoln Chafee (R)	Sheldon Whitehouse (D)
Tennessee	OPEN SEAT [Frist (R)]	Bob Corker (R)
Virginia	George Allen (R)	Jim Webb (D)

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2006 Election Results – U.S. House

- » Democrats have won control of the House
- » 218 needed for majority, 435 at stake

PARTY	TOTAL	GAIN/LOSS
Republicans	202	-29
Democrats	233	+30
Independents	0	-1

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2006 Election Results – U.S. House

» Key incumbent losses (all Republicans):

SEAT	INCUMBENT	NEW MEMBER	SEAT	INCUMBENT	NEW MEMBER
AZ-05	J.D. Hayworth (R)	Harry Mitchell (D)	MN-01	Gil Gutknecht (R)	Tim Walz (D)
CA-11	Richard Pombo (R)	Jerry McNerney (D)	NH-01	Jeb Bradley (R)	Carol Porter-Shea (D)
CT-02	Rob Simmons (R)	Joseph Courtney (D)	NH-02	Charlie Bass (R)	Paul Hodes (D)
CT-04	Nancy Johnson (R)	Chris Murphy (D)	NY-19	Sue Kelly (R)	John Hall (D)
FL-22	Clay Shaw, Jr. (R)	Ron Klein (D)	NY-20	John Sweeney (R)	Kristin Gillibrand (D)
IN-02	Chris Chocola (R)	Joe Donnelly (D)	NC-11	Charles Taylor (R)	Heath Shuler (D)
IN-08	John Hostettler (R)	Brad Ellsworth (D)	PA-04	Melissa Hart (R)	Jason Altmire (D)
IN-09	Mike Sodrel (R)	Baron Hill (D)	PA-07	Curt Weldon (R)	Joe Sestak (D)
IA-02	Jim Leach (R)	Dave Loebsack (D)	PA-08	Mike Fitzpatrick (R)	Patrick Murphy (D)
KS-01	Jim Ryun (R)	Nancy Boyda (D)	PA-10	Don Sherwood (R)	Chris Carney (D)
KY-03	Anne Northup (R)	John Yarmuth (D)	TX-22	Henry Bonilla (R)	Ciro Rodriguez (D)

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2006 Election Results – U.S. House

» Key Open Seats (Democratic Pick-Ups):

SEAT	RETIRING MEMBER	NEW MEMBER
AZ-08	Jim Kolbe (R)	Gabrielle Giffords (D)
CO-07	Bob Beauprez (R)	Ed Perlmutter (D)
FL-16	Mark Foley (R)	Tim Mahoney (D)
IA-01	Jim Nussle (R)	Bruce Braley (D)
NY-24	Sherwood Boehlert (R)	Mike Arcuri (D)
OH-18	Bob Ney (R)	Zack Space (D)
TX-22	Tom DeLay (R)	Nick Lampson (D)
VT-AL	Bernie Sanders (I)	Peter Welch (D)
WI-08	Mark Green (R)	Steve Kagen (D)

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2006 Election Results – Gubernatorial

» Democrats now control a majority of state Governorships

PARTY	TOTAL	GAIN/LOSS
Republicans	22	-6
Democrats	28	+6

» Democratic Pick-ups:

Arkansas: Mike Beebe* Massachusetts: Deval Patrick*
 Colorado: Bill Ritter* New York: Eliot Spitzer*
 Maryland: Martin O'Malley Ohio: Ted Strickland*

*Candidates won open seats currently held by Republicans

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Exit Polling: Key Issues

- » Corruption
 - » Republicans lost House seats in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Florida as direct result of a variety of recent scandals
 - » 74% of voters said corruption and scandal were important factors in their vote
- » Terrorism
 - » 39% of voters said the issue was "extremely" important; 33% said very important
- » Economy
 - » 39% of voters said the economy was an extremely important factor in their vote; 43% said very important
- » Dissatisfaction with President Bush
 - » About 60% of voters disapproved of the President's job performance
 - » 37% percent indicated that this dissatisfaction impacted their vote
- » War in Iraq
 - » 36% of voters said the war was extremely important in their House vote; 32% said it was very important; 20% said somewhat important
 - » Roughly 60% of voters disapprove of the war in Iraq

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Factors that Influenced the Election

- » Democrats vs. Republicans: “Generics”
 - » Democratic edge fluctuated between 9 and 15 points in the two months leading up to the election
 - » Republicans were able to close the gap somewhat in the last week
 - » National focus and general anti-incumbent views made this election less about individual Members, who typically fare better than generic party numbers predict
- » Evidence of Anti-Incumbent Sentiment; the “do-nothing” Congress
 - » Leading up to the election, approval of Congress stood at roughly 23%, its lowest level since 1994
 - » Exit polls indicate that about 60% of voters disapproved with how Congress was handling its job

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Factors that Influenced the Election

- » Resources
 - » GOP committees’ overall advantage (about \$10m) was their lowest in 20 years
 - » Dems raised substantially more than in 2002 midterms; Republicans fared less well
 - » Democrats were aided by \$40 million boost from union allies for GOTV activities
 - » On the House side especially, Democrats had a limited number of competitive seats to defend and therefore were able to spend more “offensively”
 - » In the weeks leading up to the election, Democrats increased the number of races where they were competing, including some previously-thought “safe” Republican seats
 - » Republicans were forced to defend over 30 competitive seats and toward the end needed resources to protect seats made vulnerable by the Foley scandal, among other issues
- » Get Out the Vote (GOTV)
 - » Historically a GOP advantage with 72 hour program and phone bank operations
 - » 2006 saw Democrats gain ground with use of blogs and internet; adopting GOP’s “microtargeting”
 - » Democrats still rely more heavily upon outside groups (e.g., unions, MoveOn.Org, etc)

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Factors that Influenced the Election

- » President Bush's job performance; "referendum on Bush"
 - » Much more about the President than any other midterm election
 - » A majority of voters said they were more concerned with national issues than local ones
 - » Just prior to the election, the President's approval rating stood at about 39%
 - » Of all voters, 42% approve and 57% disapprove of President Bush's performance
- » Energizing the base
 - » Both parties forcefully mobilized their bases
 - » Ballot issues in numerous states may have bolstered turnout
 - » For Democrats: minimum wage (6 states)
 - » For Republicans: Gay marriage (8 states); eminent domain (8 states)
- » Changing demographics
 - » Democrats had strong edge among minorities, especially Hispanics
 - » In part driven by the immigration issue, more than 70% of Hispanics voted for Democrats compared to only 27% for Republicans (an 11 point drop from the 2002 midterm elections)
 - » Democrats also made significant gains among several religious demographic groups

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Factors that Influenced the Election

- » Independent Voters
 - » Democrats and Republicans were fairly united behind their parties' candidates, so independent voters proved critical
 - » Exit polls indicate that independents made up about 26% of voters
 - » 60 percent of Independent voters supported Democrats over Republicans
 - » Driven by disapproval of the Iraq war, disapproval of Congressional leadership, dissatisfaction with President Bush
 - » Large Democratic preference contrasts with fairly even split in 2004 elections (where Independents supported Democrats by a very slim margin)
 - » The number of Independents who turned out to vote was roughly equal to the number who voted in the 2004 presidential election
 - » Pre-election polling indicated that independent voters were more motivated by dissatisfaction with Republicans than enthusiasm for Democrats

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Factors that Influenced the Election

- » Technology has played an increasing role since 2004 elections
 - » Internet as news source
 - » An AP/AOL poll found that 43 percent of likely voters get political news from the Internet
 - » Streamlining videos of candidates
 - » YouTube.com
 - » Grassroots blogging network enables lightening-fast and widespread transmission of messages
 - » Impact on mainstream media
 - » Helping to set the agenda?
 - » Bloggers also played a role in reporting voting issues and controversies on election day

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