#### **House of Representatives Leadership**

### **House of Representatives**



#### Speaker of the House

Chamber's presiding officer

Decides points of order

Refers bills and resolutions to appropriate House committees

Schedules legislation for floor action

Appoints House members to select, joint, and House-Senate conference committees





## **Majority Leader & Minority Leader**

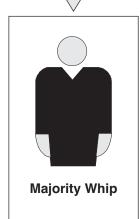
Appointed by parties to shape and direct the strategy on the House floor

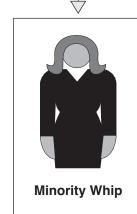
Maintain their parties' alliances to garner voting majorities to pass or defeat bills and amendments

Formulate the party's legislative program in cooperation with the speaker

With other party leaders steer their program through the House

Ensure that committee chairs take action on bills





## Majority Whip & Minority Whip

Each party elects a whip to aid the floor leader in implementing the party's legislative program

Help develop a party program

Transmit information to party members in the chamber

Assist leaders in developing a count and a strategy for key vote

Build coalitions to pass bills and amendments

Gather intelligence, know where the key votes are, and use persuasive tactics to garner more votes

#### Senate Leadership

# Senate Vice President Is the president of the Senate May not take part in debates May try to influence a vote through contact with senators May recognize members and put questions to a vote May vote only in the event of a tie **President Pro Tempore** Presides when the vice president is not present Usually is the most senior member of the majority party **Temporary Presiding Officer** Presides when neither the vice president nor the president pro tempore is present Usually a senior member of the majority party **Majority Leader Minority Leader** Nominates members to party committees Affects assignment of members to committees Summarizes criticisms of the majority party's legislation Influences the election of party officers Mobilizes support for minority party positions Appoints ad hoc party task forces to Acts as Senate spokesperson for the

study and recommend reforms With advice of minority leader, controls scheduling

Programs and expedites his/her party's legislation

Receives special recognition on the floor

## **Majority Whip**

See description for Whips in the House of Representatives

## **Minority Whip**

president if both are of the same party