
STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing committees are defined as those committees set forth in the Rules of the Senate or the Rules of the House of Delegates (Code State Government Article, sec. 2-101(f)). Their primary function is to consider all legislation referred to them by the Senate President or House Speaker.

The Senate has six standing committees (Senate Rule 18). The House has eight standing committees (House Rule 18). In addition, there are three joint standing committees. At the beginning of each session, the Senate President and House Speaker appoint the members of standing committees and designate chairpersons and vice-chairpersons. A senator or delegate may not be appointed to more than one standing committee whose main function is to consider legislation.

The rules of each chamber require every bill to be referred by the presiding officer to the appropriate standing committee (Senate Rule 33; House Rule 33). An exception is made for bills which are strictly local with no statewide impact. Such bills are referred instead to select committees. A select committee is usually composed of a county's delegation in the House or its senators, with other members appointed as necessary to make up the minimum number of three. Counties without home rule keep their select committees busy.

The House or Senate may suspend its Rules in order to consider a bill or resolution without referring it to a standing committee as long as each member receives a copy of the bill or resolution to be so considered (Senate Rule 33(f); House Rule 33(f)).

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET & TAXATION COMMITTEE

Laurence Levitan, *Chairperson*
Barbara A. Hoffman, *Vice-Chairperson*

Appointed by Senate President: William H. Amoss; John A. Cade; Nathan C. Irby, Jr.; Julian L. Lapidus; Nancy L. Murphy; Lewis R. Riley; Ida G. Ruben; Charles H. Smelser; Decatur W. Trotter; Albert R. Wynn; Thomas M. Yeager.

Staff: Robbin S. Marks; Gregory A. Brown;
Douglass R. Mann

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Annapolis, MD 21401 841-3710

The Budget and Taxation Committee considers legislation relating to State operating and capital budgets, including revenues and expenditures; supplementary appropriations; State and county bond authorizations; legislative budgetary procedures; taxation and property assessments; and proposals requiring significant expenditures. The Committee consists of thirteen members.

**ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Clarence W. Blount, *Chairperson*
Arthur Dorman, *Vice-Chairperson*

Appointed by Senate President: Michael J. Collins; C. Bernard Fowler; Idamae Garrott; Larry E. Haines; Paula C. Hollinger; Gloria Lawlah; Christopher J. McCabe; American Joe Miedusiewski; Gerald W. Winegrad.

Staff: Carol L. Swan; Lynne S. Blume; Simon G. Powell

200 James Senate Office Building
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The Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee considers legislation relating to agriculture and land preservation; natural resources; alcoholic beverages; housing and economic development; elections; veterans and defense; education; fire prevention and safety; procurement; environmental health; local government; administrative law; State government reorganization and procedures; and business and occupational licensing and regulation (including health occupations). Eleven senators serve on this committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Thomas P. O'Reilly, *Chairperson*
James C. Simpson, *Vice-Chairperson*

Appointed by Senate President: F. Vernon Boozer; Thomas L. Bromwell; George W. Della, Jr.; John W. Derr; Leo E. Green; John J. Hafer; Patricia R. Sher; Michael J. Wagner; Larry Young.

Staff: Isabella Firth; Stephen M. Ports; N. Christopher Usiak

Presidential Wing
James Senate Office Building
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The Finance Committee considers legislation relating to banks and financial institutions; credit regulation and consumer financing; commercial law; economic and community development; insurance; horse racing; lottery and gambling; health; pensions and retirement; State personnel; social services; transportation; utility regulation; labor and employment; unemployment insurance; and worker's compensation. The Committee consists of eleven members.