

**Table 3.23a
PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES**

State	How many House minority members on:			How many Senate minority members on:		
	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	How are House committees appointed?	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	How are the Senate committees appointed?
Alabama	House rules require the Speaker to "proportion, as reasonably as possible... in a manner which is inclusive and reflects the racial diversity, gender, and political party affiliation of the members of the body."	Interim committees are created by a resolution, which generally does not require political party diversity.	The Speaker appoints all committees.	Senate rules only require appointments to "reflect the diversity" of the Senate.	Interim committees are created by a resolution, which generally does not require political party diversity.	Senate Committee on Assignments appoints members.
Alaska	Representation on committees is proportional to the number of minority members in the total body.	Same as Standing	The Committee on Committees appoints, which is selected by the Speaker and on which the Speaker is a member.	Representation on committees is proportional to the number of minority members in the total body.	Same as standing	The Committee on Committees appoints, which is selected by the Senate President and of which the Senate President is a member.
Arizona	No requirement for minority party representation, unless a bill sponsor specifies a bipartisan requirement. "3 members, not more than 2 from the same party."	No requirement for minority party representation, unless a bill sponsor specifies a bipartisan requirement. "3 members, not more than 2 from the same party."	The Speaker appoints all committees.	No requirement for minority party representation, unless a bill sponsor specifies a bipartisan requirement. "3 members, not more than 2 from the same party."	No requirement for minority party representation, unless a bill sponsor specifies a bipartisan requirement. "3 members, not more than 2 from the same party."	President of the Senate
Arkansas	No requirement	No requirement	Selection by district caucus and Speaker	No requirement for minority party representation	No requirement for minority party representation	The most senior member of the Senate shall select first and shall choose either a Class "A", Class "B" or Class "C" Committee. The next senior member shall then choose a position on either a Class "A", Class "B" or Class "C" Committee. The seniority rotation procedure shall continue, without regard to party affiliation, until the member with the least seniority makes his or her selection.
California	No requirement	No requirement	Speaker, with coordination with Minority Leader	No requirement	No requirement	The Rules Committee appoints committees
Colorado	The Speaker determines the number based on proportional representation.	Same as Standing	The Speaker appoints majority members, Minority Leader appoints minority members.	Proportional to party representation in the Senate	Proportionate to their numbers in the Senate	The Majority Leader decides the number and proportion on each committee, then appoints the majority party members; the minority leader appoints the minority party members.

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

State	How many House minority members on:			How are House committees appointed?		
	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	Joint Committees— Appointed by the Joint Committee on Legislative Management, composed of the Speaker, President of Senate, and Minority Leader for both bodies	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	Joint Committees— Appointed by the Joint Committee on Legislative Management, composed of the Speaker, President of Senate, and Minority Leader for both bodies
Connecticut	No formal requirement	No interim committees	Joint Committees— Appointed by the Joint Committee on Legislative Management, composed of the Speaker, President of Senate, and Minority Leader for both bodies	No formal requirement	No interim committees	Joint Committees— Appointed by the Joint Committee on Legislative Management, composed of the Speaker, President of Senate, and Minority Leader for both bodies
Delaware	All committees “shall include members of both political parties”	All committees “shall include members of both political parties”	The Speaker appoints committee members	No requirement	No requirement	The President Pro Temp appoints committee members
Florida	No requirement	No requirement	The Speaker appoints committee members	No requirement	No requirement	By letter from the President of the Senate
Hawaii	“Generally based on proportional representation”	No requirement	The Speaker appoints committee members	“On a proportional basis or on such basis as may be prescribed by the Senate.”	“Special committees shall consist of not less than three members each [and] include a member or members of the minority party.”	The President appoints committee members, minority party designates minority candidates.
Idaho	The practice has been to appoint minority members to committees in the approximate proportion that they make up in the House or Senate as a whole, so the percentage could change every two years after elections.	The practice has been to appoint minority members to committees in the approximate proportion that they make up in the House or Senate as a whole, so the percentage could change every two years after elections.	Members are appointed at the discretion of the Speaker or the Pro Tem (or, for interim committees, the Legislative Council).	The practice has been to appoint minority members to committees in the approximate proportion that they make up in the House or Senate as a whole, so the percentage could change every two years after elections.	The practice has been to appoint minority members to committees in the approximate proportion that they make up in the House or Senate as a whole, so the percentage could change every two years after elections.	Members are appointed at the discretion of the Speaker or the Pro Tem (or, for interim committees, the Legislative Council).
Illinois	No requirement; Speaker determines how many members of each party will serve on each committee. The Minority Leader chooses the minority members for each committee.	No requirement; Speaker determines how many members of each party will serve on each committee. The Minority Leader chooses the minority members for each committee.	Speaker of the House & Minority Leader appoint for their respective parties	No requirement; President determines how many members of each party will serve on each committee. The Minority Leader chooses the minority members for each committee.	No requirement; President determines how many members of each party will serve on each committee. The Minority Leader chooses the minority members for each committee.	President & Minority Leader appoint for their respective parties
Indiana	“Membership of the standing committees shall be made proportionate to representation of parties in the House”	Interim committees have 7 members; 4 chosen by the Speaker; 3 chosen by the Minority Leader	The Speaker appoints committee members.	No requirement, but historically there has been near proportionate representation.	Interim committees have 7 members; 4 chosen by the President, 3 chosen by the Minority Leader	The President appoints committee members.

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

State	How many House minority members on:			How many Senate minority members on:		
	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	How are House committees appointed?	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	How are the Senate committees appointed?
Iowa	No requirements for most committees; Ethics Committee made up of 3 majority members and 3 minority members	Study committees appointed by a council, and must have minority members from House and Senate, but no specific requirements	By the Speaker with recommendation from the Minority Leader about their representation on committees	Ethics is even, other have to have a simple majority	Simple majority	Leader appoint, with advice of the Minority Leader
Kansas	No requirement.	Special committees are created by the Legislative Coordinating Council, which determines the numbers of committee members for each committee. Proportional share of members from each party—Speaker appoints majority members, Minority Leader appoints minority members.	The Speaker appoints standing committees.	No requirement, but the Minority Leader shall submit recommendations for the appointment of Minority members to the standing committees.	Special committees are created by the Legislative Coordinating Council, which determines the number of committee members for each committee. Proportional share of members from each party—President appoints majority members, Minority Leader appoints minority members.	The President, with the advice of the majority leader and the VP of the Senate, shall appoint members of standing committees.
Kentucky	Proportionate to the party representation in the House	Special committees are also proportionate to the party representation	The Committee on Committees appoints	Proportionate to party representation in Senate	Special committees are also proportionate to party representation of the Senate	Committee on Committees appoints
Louisiana	No requirement	No requirement	Speaker appoints, except for the Appropriations Committee, which is elected.	No requirement	No requirement	Appointed by the President
Maine (a)	No requirement, but typically 4/10	Same committees	The Speaker appoints all committees.	No requirement, but typically 1/3	Same committees	President of the Senate
Maryland	Same ratio of Majority to Minority party in the House.	No requirement in most committees.	The Speaker appoints all committees.	No requirement, but the President must appoint members in a manner that reflects the diversity of the Senate, including but not limited to political party affiliation. The President makes minority party appointments in consultation with the minority leader.	No requirement in most committees.	The President appoints committee members.
Massachusetts	Done to reflect the ratio of the representation within the house; minimum of 2 for most committees with higher minimums for others	Same as standing	Speaker and Minority Leader appoint for their parties.	There are requirements for a specific number for each committee	Joint committee	President and Minority Leader appoint from their parties

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

State	How many House minority members on:			How are House committees appointed?			How many Senate minority members on:		
	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	How are House committees appointed?	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	How are the Senate committees appointed?			
Michigan	No requirement	No requirement (special committees)	The Speaker Appoints in consultation with the minority leader, but the Speaker has authority	No requirement	No requirement	The Senate Majority Leader shall appoint all committees except when the Senate shall otherwise order			
Minnesota	The Speaker determines the number based on proportional representation and then appoints based off of a list chosen by the Minority Leader.	The Speaker determines the number based on proportional representation and then appoints based off of a list chosen by the Minority Leader.	The Speaker officially appoints all committees	Proportionate to their numbers in the Senate	Proportionate to their numbers in the Senate	"Majority and minority groups shall appoint their own members to fill" committee positions			
Mississippi	No requirement	No requirement	The Speaker appoints all committees.	No requirement	No requirement	Appointed by the President			
Missouri	Proportionate representation, except for Ethics which is equal	Proportional Representation	Speaker and Minority Floor Leader	Proportional to the party representation in the Senate	Proportional to the party representation in the Senate	President pro tem appoints			
Montana (b)	No requirements	No requirements	By the Speaker, with "good faith consultation" with the Minority Leader	No requirements	No requirements	Committee on Committees, composed of 6 majority party members, but with "good faith consultation" with the minority leader.			
Nebraska	One house, nonpartisan legislature, so "party is not part of any equation". Members are chosen by the "Committee on Committees." It is a select committee composed of 13 legislators—4 from each district and a chairperson.								
Nevada	No requirement	No requirement	Speaker appoints, and typically consults with the minority leader.	No requirement	No requirement	The Majority Leader determines majority composition and the Minority Leader determines the minority composition			
New Hampshire (c)	Same ratio of Majority to Minority party in the House.	Same ratio of Majority to Minority party in the House.	The Speaker appoints all committees with the advice of the Minority leader.	"On all committees of the Senate, both parties shall be represented."	"On all committees of the Senate, both parties shall be represented."	The President shall appoint the members of all committees after consultation with the Minority leader.			

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

State	How many House minority members on:			How are House committees appointed?		
	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	Interim Committees	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	Interim Committees
New Jersey	No requirement for minority party representation	NJ does not have interim committees	No requirement for minority party representation	No requirement for minority party representation	NI does not have interim committees	The President shall appoint all committees. The President shall solicit and consider recommendations submitted by the Minority Leader.
New Mexico (d)	No requirement, but the Speaker generally requests input from the Minority Leader and other members. Proportionality is a long-standing practice.	Most interim committees are appointed by the NMLC and any committee created or appointed by the LC must, by statute, be proportional.	The Speaker appoints all committees.	No requirement, but the President generally requests input from the Minority Leader and other members. Proportionality is a long-standing practice.	Most interim committees are appointed by the NMLC and any committee created or appointed by the LC must, by statute, be proportional.	The President shall appoint committees.
New York	The number of majority members of each standing committee shall be in the same ratio as the majority members of the House are to the entire membership of the House, with all fractional members being credited to the majority; provided, however that there shall be at least one minority member on each standing committee, and further provided that the Standing Committee on Ethics and Guidance shall consist of an equal number of majority and minority members.	No rule mentioned. See Rule for standing as follows- The number of majority members of each standing committee shall be in the same ratio as the majority members of the House are to the entire membership of the House, with all fractional members being credited to the House, with all fractional members being credited to the majority; provided, however that there shall be at least one minority member on each standing committee, and further provided that the Standing Committee on Ethics and Guidance shall consist of an equal number of majority and minority members.	The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint the chairpersons and members of all committees thereof, except where the House shall otherwise order, shall create such sub-committees of each standing committee, jointly with the chairperson of the standing committee as may deemed necessary, shall appoint the chairpersons and members of all subcommittees thereof, except where the House shall otherwise order.	The membership of all committees, unless otherwise provided by the act or resolution creating them, shall be composed, as nearly as may be, of coalition and democratic conference member in the same proportion as the number of coalition and democratic conference members in the senate bears to the total membership of the senate.	No other rule mentioned. The membership of all committees, unless otherwise provided by the act or resolution creating them, shall be composed, as nearly as may be, of coalition and democratic conference member in the same proportion as the number of coalition and democratic conference members in the senate bears to the total membership of the senate.	The President, as chosen by the, Senate members, as majority leader, shall appoint and designate the Officers of the Senate, the chair, vice chair, and members of all committees and sub-committees, except when the senate shall order otherwise.

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

	<i>How many House minority members on:</i>		<i>How many Senate minority members on:</i>	
<i>State</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>
North Carolina	The Speaker shall establish the number of members of each standing committee and appoint the members in a manner to reflect the partisan membership of the House, except that the Committee on Ethics shall have an equal number of members of the majority and minority. Before appointing members of committees, the Speaker shall consult with the Minority Leader. The Speaker and Minority Leader shall consider members' committee preferences in making appointments and recommendations.	Interim committees really need to be looked at individually because some of them will have a Statute that requires who appoints the members and how they are supposed to appoint them.	Membership on standing committees shall consist of no fewer than five Senators, including the chairs and vice-chairs and ranking minority members. (f)	Membership on standing committees shall consist of no fewer than five Senators, including the chairs and vice-chairs and ranking minority members. (f)
North Dakota	Nothing set in rule, generally each legislator is assigned one committee each day, a 3 day committee for Monday–Wednesday and a 2-day committee for Thursday–Friday.	Again nothing is set in rule or law, our 17 member Legislative Management committee determines committee membership, considering legislator areas of knowledge and political balance.	Nothing set in rule, generally each legislator is assigned one committee each day, a 3 day committee for Monday–Wednesday and a 2-day committee for Thursday–Friday.	No rule mentioned.
		Appointed by the House or Senate, based on the recommendations of the Committee on Committees of each house. The House and Senate rules establish the total number of members on each committee. This happens at the Organizational Session in December prior to each regular session (every 2 years).	Appointed by the House or Senate, based on the recommendations of the Committee on Committees of each house. The House and Senate rules establish the total number of members on each committee. This happens at the Organizational Session in December prior to each regular session (every 2 years).	Appointed by the House or Senate, based on the recommendations of the Committee on Committees of each house. The House and Senate rules establish the total number of members on each committee. This happens at the Organizational Session in December prior to each regular session (every 2 years).

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

	<i>How many House minority members on:</i>	<i>How are House committees appointed?</i>	<i>How many Senate minority members on:</i>	<i>How are the Senate committees appointed?</i>
<i>State</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>
Ohio	The Speaker shall appoint members to a standing committee so that its membership is proportional to the partisan composition of the House. The chair and the vice-chair of the Finance Committee shall not be included in making this calculation. The Minority Leader, in a manner to be determined by the minority caucus, may recommend for the Speaker's consideration minority party members for each committee. (h)	The Speaker shall name all committees and subcommittees and shall appoint all members and chairs thereto. The Speaker shall appoint members to a standing committee so that its membership is proportional to the partisan composition of the House. The chair and the vice-chair of the Finance Committee shall not be included in making this calculation. The Minority Leader, in a manner to be determined by the minority caucus, may recommend for the Speaker's consideration minority party members for each committee. (h)	All committees shall be appointed by the President.	All committees shall be appointed by the President. All committees shall be appointed by the President.
Oklahoma	Speaker of the house decides the number between both parties, there is not minimum requirement.	Speaker of the house decides the number between both parties, there is not minimum requirement. The Speaker of the house appoints the members for both standing and Interim committees.	No requirement necessary. (Note- they can meet year round and also break with session.) The Oklahoma Senate does not require a specific percentage and has not in recent history, except for the 2007-08 biennium during which the Senate membership was tied with 24 Republicans and 24 Democrats. During that period, each committee was required to have equal representation. Since then, the President Pro Tempore has determined the number of positions on each committee that each caucus may have, and then the minority party appointments are made by the leader of that caucus.	No requirement necessary. Most interim studies are assigned to standing committees (they all are this interim), but if a special or ad hoc committee was formed, the President Pro Tempore would appoint all the members.
	Speaker of the house decides the number between both parties, there is not minimum requirement.	Speaker of the house decides the number between both parties, there is not minimum requirement. The Speaker of the house appoints the members for both standing and Interim committees.	No requirement necessary. (Note- they can meet year round and also break with session.) The Oklahoma Senate does not require a specific percentage and has not in recent history, except for the 2007-08 biennium during which the Senate membership was tied with 24 Republicans and 24 Democrats. During that period, each committee was required to have equal representation. Since then, the President Pro Tempore has determined the number of positions on each committee that each caucus may have, and then the minority party appointments are made by the leader of that caucus.	Pro tempore appoints members on the committee, does not have to have required number. However, those that are minority in the committee are appointed by the minority leader. Currently, the standing is 39 republicans and 9 democrats in the Senate.

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

	<i>How many House minority members on:</i>	<i>How are House committees appointed?</i>	<i>How are Senate minority members on:</i>	<i>How are Senate committees appointed?</i>
State	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	Standing Committees	Interim Committees
Oregon (O)	Except as otherwise provided by law or resolution, members of all committees, and the Chairs and Vice-Chairs thereof, shall be appointed by the Speaker. (2) The Speaker shall appoint majority party and minority party members to all committees, in the same proportion as the number of majority party members and the number of minority party members in the House bear respectively to the total membership of the House. Except as otherwise provided by law, the Speaker shall determine the number of members of each committee. No member of the House shall be appointed to a committee during the session without leave of the Speaker. Any member attending such a meeting shall be considered excused to attend business of the House subject to a Call of the House.	Except as otherwise provided by law or resolution, members of all committees, and the Chairs and Vice-Chairs thereof, shall be appointed by the Speaker. (2) The Speaker shall appoint majority party and minority party members to all committees, in the same proportion as the number of majority party members and the number of minority party members in the House bear respectively to the total membership of the House. Except as otherwise provided by law, the Speaker shall determine the number of members of each committee. No member of the House shall be appointed to a committee during the session without leave of the Speaker. Any member attending such a meeting shall be considered excused to attend business of the House subject to a Call of the House.	The President shall establish standing committees to operate during the Long Session, interim committees to operate during the interim periods, and standing committees to operate during the Short Session. The President may establish special committees and conference committees. (2) Members of all committees, and the chairs and vice-chairs thereof, shall be appointed by the President. (3) The President shall appoint members to other committees as necessary or as required by law. (4) The President shall be an ex officio member of each committee and have the power to vote. As an ex officio member on committees the President does not increase the size of the respective committees, but is counted for purposes of a quorum. Ex officio membership does not increase the number of members required to provide a quorum.	The President shall establish standing committees to operate during the Long Session, interim committees to operate during the interim periods, and standing committees to operate during the Short Session. The President may establish special committees and conference committees. (2) Members of all committees, and the chairs and vice-chairs thereof, shall be appointed by the President. (3) The President shall appoint members to other committees as necessary or as required by law. (4) The President shall be an ex officio member of each committee and have the power to vote. As an ex officio member on committees the President does not increase the size of the respective committees, but is counted for purposes of a quorum. Ex officio membership does not increase the number of members required to provide a quorum.
Pennsylvania	All standing committees shall consist of 16 members of the majority party and 11 members of the minority party, except the Committee on Appropriations which shall consist of 22 members of the majority party and 15 members of the minority party. (f)	No rule mentioned.	“The composition of each Standing Committee shall reasonably reflect the caucus composition of the Senate membership.”	NA—standing committees function both during and between sessions

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

<i>How many House minority members on:</i>	<i>How many House minority members on:</i>			<i>How many Senate minority members on:</i>		
<i>State</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>How are House committees appointed?</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>How are the Senate committees appointed?</i>
Rhode Island (R)	The Speaker shall appoint all standing committees and create such other subcommittees and committees as may be required from time to time and appoint thereto. All subcommittees and committees shall have proportionate minority membership when feasible. The Speaker, in consultation with the Minority Leader, shall be the appointing authority for minority membership on standing committees and commissions.	The Speaker, in consultation with the Minority Leader, shall be the appointing authority for minority membership on standing committees and commissions.	The Speaker shall appoint all standing committees and create such other subcommittees and committees as may be required from time to time and appoint thereto. All subcommittees and committees shall have proportionate minority membership when feasible. The Speaker, in consultation with the Minority Leader, shall be the appointing authority for minority membership on standing committees and commissions.	Each of the standing committees of the senate shall consist of the president of the senate, ex officio with voting rights, and the majority and minority leaders of the senate, ex officio, with voting rights, and senators appointed by the president of the senate, each to serve until January 3, 2017. (l)	The senate may, from time to time, by resolution, provide for the establishment of select committees upon such subjects as it may deem proper, and upon the adoption of such resolution, the president of the senate shall appoint the chair and members thereof, and shall provide for minority party representation. Any committee created pursuant to this rule shall be deemed a standing committee for all purposes of law, including the applicability of section 22-6-2.1 of the general law.	Each of the standing committees of the senate shall consist of the president of the senate, ex officio with voting rights, and the majority and minority leaders of the senate, ex officio, with voting rights, and senators appointed by the president of the senate, each to serve until January 3, 2017. (l)

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

State	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	How are House committees appointed?	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	How are the Senate committees appointed?
South Carolina.....	All committees shall be appointed by the Speaker, unless otherwise provided for by rule or by law, except Senatorial and gubernatorial appointees and ex officio members of the House. The Speaker shall name the members constituting each committee in alphabetical order. (i)	All committees shall be appointed by the Speaker, unless otherwise provided for by rule or by law, except Senatorial and gubernatorial appointees and ex officio members of the House. The Speaker shall name the members constituting each committee in alphabetical order. The Chairman shall be elected by the respective committees during the organizational session. If any subsequent vacancy shall occur in a committee's chairmanship, the election of a new committee chairman shall take place at the time and date to be set by the presiding officer of the respective committee. The committees may at their discretion elect a Vice Chairman and such other officers as they may choose. Provided, when appointing members to a Committee on Conference or Free Conference, the Speaker shall consult with the majority and minority political party leaders and appoint at least one member of the minority political party represented in the House.	All committees shall be appointed by the Speaker, unless otherwise provided for by rule or by law, except Senatorial and gubernatorial appointees and ex officio members of the House. The Speaker shall name the members constituting each committee in alphabetical order. The Chairman shall be elected by the respective committees during the organizational session. If any subsequent vacancy shall occur in a committee's chairmanship, the election of a new committee chairman shall take place at the time and date to be set by the presiding officer of the respective committee. The committees may at their discretion elect a Vice Chairman and such other officers as they may choose. Provided, when appointing members to a Committee on Conference or Free Conference, the Speaker shall consult with the majority and minority political party leaders and appoint at least one member of the minority political party represented in the House.	The membership of the above listed committees shall be as follows: The Committees on Judiciary and Finance shall each have twenty-three (23) members. All other standing Committees except the Committee on Ethics and the Operations and Invitations shall have seventeen (17) members. The Committee on Ethics shall be composed of ten (10) members. Of the ten (10) members selecting a seat, five (5) shall be members of the majority party and five (5) shall be members of the minority party. The Committee on Invitations shall be limited to not more than eleven (11) members. The total membership of each Standing Committee shall be composed of members of the two major political party caucuses in proportion to the number of Senators of each such political party caucuses as nearly as possible and ensuring that the majority party as defined in these Rules contains a majority of the membership within each Standing Committee. (o)	In addition to the above listed Standing Committees, Special Committees to be known as the Committee on Interstate Cooperation which shall be composed of five (5) members and the Operations and Management Committee selected by the President Pro Tempore. The Chairman of the Interstate Cooperation Committee and the Operations and Management Committee shall in all cases be the most senior senator of the majority party serving thereon or in his or her absence the next senior Senator of the majority party serving thereon.	Members of the Senate shall make their committee selections at the commencement of the session following the election of Senators or in the case of a special election, at such session designated for that purpose by the President Pro Tempore. (p)
South Dakota (q).....	Speaker appoints, with advice from Minority Leader	Senators & Reps. appointed by Executive Board	Representatives appointed by Speaker	Pro Tem appoints majority party members, Minority Leader appoints minority party members	Senators & Reps. appointed by Executive Board	Pro Tem appoints majority party members, Minority Leader appoints minority party members.

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

<i>How many House minority members on:</i>	<i>How are House committees appointed?</i>			<i>How many Senate minority members on:</i>	<i>How are the Senate committees appointed?</i>		
<i>State</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>How are House committees appointed?</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>How are the Senate committees appointed?</i>	
Tennessee	No requirement, but Speaker shall give consideration to the abilities, preferences, and seniority of the members and the political party representation in the House. (r)	No requirement, but Speaker shall give consideration to the abilities, preferences, and seniority of the members and the political party representation in the House. (r)	The Speaker appoints all committees unless otherwise directed by the House. (r)	The Speaker shall appoint one Chairman, one 1st Vice-Chairman, and one 2nd Vice-Chairman for each of the nine (9) standing legislative committees, giving due regard to the abilities, preferences and seniority of the members; the needs of the committees; the recommendations of party caucuses; and the political party representation in the Senate. The Speaker may appoint a Chairman Emeritus at his or her discretion.	The Speaker shall appoint one Chairman, one 1st Vice-Chairman, and one 2nd Vice-Chairman for each of the nine (9) standing legislative committees, giving due regard to the abilities, preferences and seniority of the members; the needs of the committees; the recommendations of party caucuses; and the political party representation in the Senate. The Speaker may appoint a Chairman Emeritus at his or her discretion.	Unless otherwise expressly directed by the Senate, the Speaker shall appoint all standing, special and select committees, giving due regard to the recommendations of party caucuses; the abilities, preferences and seniority of the members; and the needs of the committee. In the event a member is absent from two consecutive meetings of a committee, the Speaker may make an interim appointment to the committee on such conditions as the Speaker may direct.	

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

	How many House minority members on:		How are House committees appointed?		How many Senate minority members on:		How are the Senate committees appointed?		
State	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	Standing committees of the house, and the number of members and general jurisdiction of each, shall be as enumerated in Rule 3. Section 2. Determination of Membership— (a)	Standing committees of the house, and the number of members and general jurisdiction of each, shall be as enumerated in Rule 3. Section 2. Determination of Membership— (a)	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	
Texas	Standing committees of the house, and the number of members and general jurisdiction of each, shall be as enumerated in Rule 3. Section 2. Determination of Membership— (a)	Pursuant to Rule 1, Section 17, the speaker may create interim study committees to conduct studies by issuing a proclamation for each committee, which shall specify the issue to be studied, committee membership, and any additional authority and duties. A copy of each proclamation creating an interim study committee shall be filed with the chief clerk. An interim study committee expires on release of its final report or when the next legislature convenes, whichever is earlier. An interim study committee may not be created by resolution.	Membership on the standing committees shall be determined at the beginning of each regular session in the following manner: For each standing substantive committee, a maximum of one-half of the membership, exclusive of the chair and vice-chair, shall be determined by seniority, (s)	Standing committees of the house, and the number of members and general jurisdiction of each, shall be as enumerated in Rule 3. Section 2. Determination of Membership— (a)	The chair of a standing committee may appoint subcommittees within a standing committee as the chair deems necessary to accomplish the work of the committee.	The President may appoint special committees and may appoint standing subcommittees within committees including subcommittees of the Committee of the Whole Senate. The number of members of these committees and subcommittees shall be determined by the President. A special committee has the jurisdiction, authority, and duties and exists for the period of time specified in the charge of the President. A special committee has the powers granted by these rules to a standing committee except as limited by the charge of the President.	All committees and standing subcommittees shall be appointed by the President of the Senate, unless otherwise directed by the Senate.	All committees and standing subcommittees shall be appointed by the President of the Senate, unless otherwise directed by the Senate.	
Utah	Standing committees. The speaker shall appoint the following standing committees, including task chair and vice-chair: (l)	Special committees. The House may form special committees, including task forces by motion or resolution. The speaker shall appoint the members of those special committees (l)	Standing committees. The speaker shall appoint the following standing committees, including task chair and vice-chair: (l)	Standing committees. The speaker shall appoint the following standing committees, including task chair and vice-chair: (l)	The president shall appoint the following standing committees. The first member named on a committee is the chair of the committee. The chair of the committee may designate a vice chair, pro tempore.	Special committees. The Senate may form special committees, including task forces, by motion or resolution. The president shall appoint the members of those special committees.	Special committees. The president shall appoint the following standing committees. The first member named on a committee is the chair of the committee. The chair of the committee may designate a vice chair, pro tempore.	Special committees. The Senate may form special committees, including task forces, by motion or resolution. The president shall appoint the members of those special committees.	Special committees. The president shall appoint the following standing committees. The first member named on a committee is the chair of the committee. The chair of the committee may designate a vice chair, pro tempore.

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

	<i>How many House minority members on:</i>			<i>How many Senate minority members on:</i>		
<i>State</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>How are House committees appointed?</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>How are the Senate committees appointed?</i>
Vermont	Unless otherwise provided by the Constitution or by statute, the Speaker shall appoint all members of any committee of the House or members on the part of the House of any joint committee.	Unless otherwise provided by the Constitution or by statute, the Speaker shall appoint all members of any committee of the House or members on the part of the House of any joint committee.	Unless otherwise provided by the Constitution or by statute, the Speaker shall be entitled to one recess of the House in which to make the appointment. The member first named on each committee shall be Chair thereof, and the member secondly named shall be Vice-Chair. If either dies or resigns, the member next in rank in the order named shall become Chair, or Vice Chair, until the Speaker appoints a new Chair or Vice-Chair, or both. Each committee, at its first meeting, shall choose a clerk from its members.	No mention of requirement.	No mention of requirement.	At the beginning of each biennial session the following standing committees shall be appointed. The committee on committees helps to appoint members.
Virginia	Same ratio as majority to minority in the House. If the ratio is a fraction, the majority members will be the next highest whole number. Those who caucus with neither will be deemed part of the majority party caucus.	No requirement, but the Speaker typically adheres to the ratio rule.	Speaker, pursuant to the Rules of the House	No requirement, but committees shall be composed of members of the two major political parties and consideration shall be given to the geographic balance in the membership of each standing committee.	Membership to each is established by the committee code sections or by a joint resolution.	A nominations report is submitted by the majority caucus to elect members to the standing committees and the committee on rules. Such members are elected by a majority vote of those present and voting.

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

<i>How many House minority members on:</i>	<i>How are House committees appointed?</i>		<i>How many Senate minority members on:</i>	
<i>State</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>
Washington	<p>There are always more majority party members on standing committees, although it is very similar and tight in numbers currently. Per tradition and House Rule 4(G), committees are appointed by the Speaker per the overall ratio of the party membership in the House. It is only required that the total ratios match as closely as possible; individual committees may have a different ratio, so long as the total averages out.</p>	<p>There will normally be equal representation for both parties, 2 and 2 and so forth. Per tradition and House Rule 4(G), committees are appointed by the Speaker per the overall ratio of the party membership in the House. It is only required that the total ratios match as closely as possible; individual committees may have a different ratio, so long as the total averages out. Here is the language of House Rule 4(G): "The speaker, in open session, shall appoint committee chairs as selected by the majority party caucus and shall appoint members to committees in the same ratio as the membership of the respective parties of the house, unless otherwise provided by law or house rules."</p>	<p>They do not have any set percentage requirement for majority/minority membership on committees. In the Senate standing committees each is established in Senate Rule, and the members are appointed on the floor. The number of majority vs. minority members on each committee is negotiated between the majority and minority prior to the adoption of the rule at the beginning of the biennium.</p>	<p>Interim committees usually have the membership spelled out in the bill or resolution that establishes the committee.</p>

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

	<i>How many House minority members on:</i>	<i>How are House committees appointed?</i>	<i>How many Senate minority members on:</i>	<i>How are the Senate committees appointed?</i>
<i>State</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>
West Virginia	The Speaker shall appoint all committees except when the House shall otherwise order. In appointing standing committees he shall designate a chairman and may designate a vice chairman.	The Speaker may also name subcommittees of standing committees, prescribe their jurisdiction and designate the chairmen thereof.	All standing committees shall be appointed by the President. The President shall designate the chair of each standing committee and may also designate a vice chair of any standing committee.	Select committees shall consist of not less than three nor more than five members, unless the Senate directs otherwise by majority vote of the members present.
				<p>At the commencement of each Legislature, committees shall be appointed and shall consist of the number of members indicated in the parentheses following the name of the committee:</p> <p>On Agriculture and Rural Development (11). On Banking and Insurance (13). On Confirmations (9). On Economic Development (14). On Finance (17). On Government Organization (14). On Health and Human Resources (13). On Interstate Cooperation (7). On the Judiciary (17). On Labor (11). On Military (9). On Natural Resources (13). On Pensions (7). On Rules (11); (the presiding officer of the Senate is to be ex officio chair). On Transportation and Infrastructure (9).</p>

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

State	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	How are House committees appointed?	Standing Committees	Interim Committees	How are the Senate committees appointed?
Wisconsin (w)	The speaker shall determine the total number of members on each committee, unless specified by joint rule or assembly rule, and the allocation of the number between members of the majority and minority party.	The following statute addresses membership of study committees. In practice, study committee membership is developed by the Joint Legislative Council (JLC) co-chairs and submitted to the full JLC for approval. Committees appointed by council. For the purpose of providing information to the legislature, the joint legislative council may appoint committees consisting of members of the legislature and of citizens having special knowledge on the subject assigned by the council to be studied. Any vacancy on a committee shall be filled by the council. The director of the legislative council staff shall certify to the secretary of state the names of the membership of such committees.	The speaker shall determine the total number of members on each committee, unless specified by joint rule or assembly rule, and the allocation of the number between members of the majority and minority party. (b) The speaker shall make all committee appointments of members of the majority party. (bm) The first-named person of each standing committee is the chairperson and the second-named person is the vice chairperson. (c) The speaker shall make all committee appointments of members of the minority party as nominated by the minority leader, except that the speaker may appoint any member of the minority party as chairperson of a committee. (cm) Unless the member is the chairperson, the first-nominated minority member of each standing committee who is first nominated by the minority leader is the ranking minority member of that committee unless the speaker and minority leader agree that the first-nominated member is the vice chairperson of the committee. [Assembly Rule (9) (2) (a) to (c) and (cm)].	With regard to members of any minority party, the appointments shall be based on nominations by the leader of that party. (c) The majority and minority parties of the senate shall be represented on all senate standing committees and on all joint standing committees on the basis prescribed by the chairperson of the committee on senate organization, but at least in proportion to the representation of the 2 major political parties in the membership of the senate unless, for the senate membership of a joint committee, such proportional representation places the senate majority party in a minority position on the joint committee. (d) Unless the member is the chairperson, the first-appointed minority member of each standing committee is the ranking minority member of that committee.	The following statute addresses membership of study committees. In practice, study committee membership is developed by the Joint Legislative Council (JLC) co-chairs and submitted to the full JLC for approval. Committees appointed by council. For the purpose of providing information to the legislature, the joint legislative council may appoint committees consisting of members of the legislature and of citizens having special knowledge on the subject assigned by the council to be studied. Any vacancy on a committee shall be filled by the council. The director of the legislative council staff shall certify to the secretary of state the names of the membership of such committees.	The chairperson of the committee on senate organization, as near to the commencement of the biennial session as possible, shall make and report to the senate all committee appointments of members of the majority and minority parties. The chairperson of the committee on senate organization shall designate a chairperson for each senate committee and joint committee.

See footnotes at end of table.

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

	<i>How many House minority members on:</i>	<i>How are House committees appointed?</i>	<i>How many Senate minority members on:</i>	<i>How are the Senate committees appointed?</i>
<i>State</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>	<i>Standing Committees</i>	<i>Interim Committees</i>
Wyoming	Minority Committee members are appointed by the Minority Floor Leader in each Chamber. Because of Wyoming's supermajority of Republicans, generally the committee assignments include at least one member of the minority party on each committee. However, because of the number of minority members in the Wyoming Legislature, this is not always possible and some committees, particularly in the Senate, have all members of the majority party. There is no set percentage or required number for minority party members in the Wyoming Legislature, other than every effort is made to have at least one minority member on each committee, when possible.	Minority Committee members are appointed by the Minority Floor Leader in each Chamber. Because of Wyoming's supermajority of Republicans, generally the committee assignments include at least one member of the minority party on each committee. However, because of the number of minority members in the Wyoming Legislature, this is not always possible and some committees, particularly in the Senate, have all members of the majority party. There is no set percentage or required number for minority party members in the Wyoming Legislature, other than every effort is made to have at least one minority member on each committee, when possible.	Minority Committee members are appointed by the Minority Floor Leader in each Chamber. Because of Wyoming's supermajority of Republicans, generally the committee assignments include at least one member of the minority party on each committee. However, because of the number of minority members in the Wyoming Legislature, this is not always possible and some committees, particularly in the Senate, have all members of the majority party. There is no set percentage or required number for minority party members in the Wyoming Legislature, other than every effort is made to have at least one minority member on each committee, when possible.	Majority Leaders determines majority, minority leader chooses minority members.

Source: The Council of State Governments' survey, March 2017.

Key:

NA — Not applicable

(a) Maine has Joint Standing Committees composed of 3 Senators and 10 Representatives. There are no set rules for the makeup, but it typically falls along the lines listed. Independents or unaffiliateds can also be in the mix, though, and the party make up of the chambers may affect the ratios.

(b) There is proposed change coming before the House Rules Committee in December that would require committee appointments be based on the overall proportion of the total House membership (rounding to the advantage of the majority).

(c) House: No member shall serve on more than two standing committees. Also, notwithstanding the provisions of this rule, the Speaker and the minority party leader may agree on a different proportion for the membership of any particular committee.

(d) House: Members may not be appointed to more than two standing committees. Senate: Each member must serve on exactly two committees.

(e) In the construction of these rules, the word "chair," as applied to a committee, extends to and includes a cochair of the committee. The Speaker shall have the exclusive right and authority to establish select committees, but this does not exclude the right of the House by resolution to establish select committees. The Speaker shall establish the number of members of each standing committee and appoint the members in a manner to reflect the partisan membership of the House, except that the Committee on Ethics shall have an equal number of members of the majority and minority. Before appointing members of committees, the (c) Speaker shall consult with the Minority Leader. The Speaker and Minority Leader

shall consider members' committee preferences in making appointments and recommendations. The Speaker may not appoint new members to committees after April 15 of an odd-numbered year or at any time during an even-numbered year except to fill vacancies caused by the resignation, death, removal, or inability to serve of a member. As to select committees established after March 1 of an odd-numbered year or during an even-numbered year, the Speaker may not appoint new members more than 60 calendar days after the select committee is established, except to fill vacancies caused by the resignation, death, removal, or inability to serve of a member. The Speaker may name one or more vice-chairs for any standing committee. Up to two Chairs of the Appropriations Committee are entitled to vote in all other Appropriations Committees (Capital, Education, General Government, Health and Human Services, Information Technology, Justice and Public Safety, Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources, and Transportation). Either the chair or acting chair, designated by the chair or by the Speaker, and five other members of the standing committee, or a majority of the standing committee, whichever is fewer, shall constitute a quorum of that standing committee. A quorum of less than a majority of all the members must include at least one member of the minority party. In any joint meeting of the Senate and House committees, the House standing committee reserves the right to vote separately. RULE 26.1. Mentions of Standing Committee Includes Select Committee. Any reference in these rules to standing committees shall extend to select committees unless the context requires otherwise.

(f) The President Pro Tempore shall have the exclusive right and authority to determine the total number of members and the number of members of each political party of each committee. No Senator shall hold membership on more than 12 standing committees unless the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate provides otherwise. A quorum of the Appropriations/Base Budget, Ways and

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

Means, and Finance Committees shall consist of a majority of the committee. A quorum of any other committee shall consist of either the chair and five members or a majority of the committee, whichever is fewer. The President Pro Tempore and the Deputy President Pro Tempore may serve as ex officio members of each Senate committee and subcommittee.

(g) The President may appoint senators who are not members of a standing committee to a standing subcommittee of that committee. (b) The President, by message, may make temporary appointments to standing committees and subcommittees. (c) In addition, the President of the Senate, by message, shall name, and may substitute, members of the Senate to serve on boards, commissions, task forces, and other bodies created by law and on which Senate members are eligible to serve, except as otherwise provided. (d) The Minority Leader of the Senate may recommend minority party members for each committee. The President shall designate a chairperson and vice-chairperson as well as a ranking minority member for each committee. The Minority Leader of the Senate may recommend the ranking minority member for each committee. In the absence of the chairperson or vice-chairperson, the committee may designate a chairperson.

(h) The current composition of the 99 member Ohio House is 65 Republicans and 34 Democrats. Doing the math, a committee's composition should be approximately made up of 66% Republicans and 34% Democrats.

(i) A majority of the members appointed to a committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business before the committee. (2) Final action on a measure in committee shall be taken only on the affirmative vote of a majority of the membership. (3) All committees shall be governed by committee rules adopted by a majority of committee members, the Senate Rules and Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure and statute. (4) Approval of an affirmative vote of a majority of the Senate members appointed to joint committees is required for final action.

(j) The quorum for each of the standing committees and subcommittees shall be no less than the majority of said committees. The following are the standing committees and subcommittees thereof, recommended to the House by the Committee on Committees: The Committee on Committees shall consist of the Speaker and 15 members of the House, ten of whom shall be members of the majority party and five of whom shall be members of the minority party, whose duty shall be to recommend to the House the names of members who are to serve on the standing committees of the House. Except for the Speaker, the Majority and Minority Leaders, Whips, Caucus Chairs, Caucus Secretaries, Caucus Administrators, Policy Chairs and the chairs and minority chairs of standing committees, each member shall be entitled to serve on not less than two standing committees. The Speaker shall appoint the chair and vice-chair of each standing committee when such standing committee has no standing subcommittees as prescribed herein, except the Committee on Appropriations which shall also have a vice-chair appointed by the Speaker; when the standing committee has standing subcommittees, the Speaker shall appoint a subcommittee chair for each standing subcommittee. The Speaker shall appoint a secretary for each standing committee. The Minority Leader shall appoint the minority chair, minority vice-chair and minority secretary of each standing committee and the minority subcommittee chair for each standing subcommittee.

(k) Except for the Speaker, the Majority and Minority Leaders, Whips, Caucus Chairs, Caucus Secretaries, Caucus Administrators, Policy Chairs and the chairs and minority chairs of standing committees, each member shall be entitled to serve on not less than two standing committees. The Speaker shall appoint the chair and vice-chair of each standing committee when such standing committee has no standing subcommittees as prescribed herein, except the Committee on Appropriations which shall also have a vice-chair appointed by the Speaker; when the standing committee has standing subcommittees, the Speaker shall appoint a subcommittee chair for each standing subcommittee. The Speaker shall appoint a secretary for each standing committee. The Minority Leader shall appoint the minority chair, minority vice-chair and minority secretary of each standing committee and the minority subcommittee chair for each standing subcommittee. Whenever the appointment of a chair or minority chair will cause the applicable caucus to exceed its permissible allocation of members on a standing committee, the appointing

authority shall make a temporary transfer of an eligible committee member to the standing committee vacated by the member appointed as chair or minority chair until a regular committee appointment can be made in accordance with the rules of the House.

(l) Provided, however, that the president of the senate may change the committee assignment of a member with the member's consent; and provided further, however, that each senator other than the president and the majority and minority leaders, shall serve as a member of one of the following standing committees: committee on housing and municipal government; committee on commerce; committee on finance; committee on the judiciary. The president of the senate shall appoint from the membership of each committee a chair, vice chair and secretary and such other committee officers as the president of the senate deems appropriate.

(m) When there is no minority member present and the committee is to consider a bill, the committee chair shall notify the office of the minority leader. Unless waived by the minority leader, the committee shall not conduct business for a reasonable time not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes or until a minority member of the committee is present. Once a minority member is present, his or her subsequent absence will not require further notice to the minority leader. For purposes of this rule, an independent senator shall be considered to be a minority member.

(n) The Chairman shall be elected by the respective committees during the organizational session. Provided, when appointing members to a Committee on Conference or Free Conference, the Speaker shall consult with the majority and minority political party leaders and appoint at least one member of the minority political party represented in the House. The House of Representatives Legislative Ethics Committee consists of ten (10) members. The ten members of the House of Representatives Legislative Ethics Committee shall be elected by the members of the House. Five members of the committee shall be members of the majority party represented in the House of Representatives and five members shall be members of the minority party represented in the House of Representatives or be nonaffiliated with any party or another party not in the majority. The Chairman of the Ethics Committee shall be one of the five members of the committee from the majority party represented in the House to be elected by the members of the committee. Other officers of the committee are not required to be affiliated with a particular party and shall be elected by members of the committee as well.

(o) For purposes of determining committee composition, percentages shall be rounded as follows: percentages of .49 or below shall be rounded down and percentages of .50 and above shall be rounded up. Membership on the Judiciary Committee excludes membership on the Finance Committee and vice versa. Committee seniority shall be determined by tenure within the committee rather than tenure within the Senate. When members with seniority transfer to a new committee, their seniority will be counted ahead of newly-elected Senators. Where two or more Standing Committees are combined, initial membership on such committee shall be based on tenure within the Senate.

(p) In the case of a special election, the President Pro Tempore must call a session for the purpose of committee elections within three statewide days after a Senator elected in a special election has taken the oath of office. Members of the Senate may not select more than five (5) Standing Committees. The Committee on Ethics, the Committee on Invitations, the Committee on Interstate Cooperation, and the Operations and Management Committee are not included in this limitation. For the members to make their Standing Committee selections, the Clerk of the Senate (or if the Clerk has not been elected, the Clerk of the Senate during the preceding General Assembly or an assistant clerk) shall prepare a roll of the Senate listing the members in the order of length of continuous service, beginning with the longest continuous service. Where two or more members have equal continuous service they shall be listed in alphabetical order. The Clerk of the Senate shall also prepare a list of each Standing Committee and the number of seats available to members of each party. The Clerk of the Senate shall then call the roll twice in order of continuous service. Each member, upon his or her name being called during the first call of the roll, shall select four (4) unfiled Standing Committees on which he or she wishes to serve (and shall also select at this same time a seat on any or all of the Ethics, Invitations and Interstate Cooperation Committees so long as a vacancy exists). Each member must select either the Finance or Judiciary

PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTING MINORITY LEGISLATORS TO COMMITTEES — Continued

Committee during the first call of the roll. When the prescribed number of seats provided for a particular party within a Standing Committee has been filled, the President shall announce that the seats available for either the Majority or Minority party are filled. When the roll is called for the second time, it shall be called in reverse order of continuous service and each member upon his or her name being called, may select one additional unfilled Standing Committee on which he or she wishes to serve. In the event any member is unable to be present for selection of Standing Committees, that member may authorize in writing any member of the Senate to make selections in his or her behalf. This procedure shall be followed on the first day of the session following the election of Senators and at any other session where a newly elected member(s) is seated and the President Pro Tempore has made the designation within the timeframe hereinabove provided. Any Senator who served on a Standing Committee in the session immediately past shall have the right to select such committee, regardless of the Senator's seniority in the Senate, unless the Senator shall elect to be removed from such committee by the choices made by the member during the first round of selection of committees or unless the number of seats available to his respective party have already been filled. Except as otherwise provided herein, in the selection by members of a seat on a Senate Standing Committee, the seniority system from the previous session shall be retained so as to become a part of these rules. Provided, when appointing members to a Committee on Conference or Free Conference, the Speaker shall consult with the majority and minority political party leaders and appoint at least one member of the minority political party represented in the House.

(g) With regards to the Retirement Laws Committee, SDCL 2-6-9 specifies that no more than three of the five members from each chamber can be from the same party, so it currently reflects a 6-4 Republican majority. Also, given the appointment authorities shown for the Legislative Water Development Oversight Committee, it will always be 2-2 in its partisan makeup. Other than that, the laws and rules are silent on how to determine the partisan breakdown of legislative committees. However, the Legislature generally follows the partisan breakdown of each chamber in allocating seats to other committees, although there have been examples when interim committees have been formed that reflected a larger representation from the minority party than their numbers would support. Gov't Operations & Audit Committee: Senators appointed by Pro Tem, Representatives appointed by Speaker; Retirement Laws

Committee: Senators appointed by — Pro Tem, Representatives appointed by Speaker; Legis Water Development Oversight: 1 each, Maj. & Min. Leaders, each chamber; State-Tribal Relations Committee: Senators appointed by Pro Tem, Representatives appointed by Speaker; Legislative Planning Committee: Speaker & Pro Tem are ex officio members; Pro Tem appoints 4 Senators, Speaker appoints 4 Representatives.

(r) House: No member shall serve on more than two standing committees, exclusive of the Committee on Calendar and Rules.

(s) The remaining membership of the committee shall be appointed by the speaker. Each member of the house, in order of seniority, may designate three committees on which he or she desires to serve, listed in order of preference. The member is entitled to become a member of the committee of his or her highest preference on which there remains a vacant seniority position. If members of equal seniority request the same committee, the speaker shall appoint the member from among those requesting that committee. Seniority, as the term is used in this subsection, shall mean years of cumulative service as a member of the house of representatives. After each member of the house has selected one committee on the basis of seniority, the remaining membership on each standing committee shall be filled by appointment of the speaker, subject to the limitations imposed in this chapter.

(t) For House: Calendaring interim committee legislation. The presiding officer shall have interim committee legislation that was approved by a majority vote of the interim committee members, read for the first time and referred to the House Rules Committee for calendaring. The House Rules Committee may refer the legislation to the calendar without standing committee review, or it may recommend that the legislation be referred to a standing committee. If the House Rules Committee recommends that the legislation be placed on the third reading calendar without standing committee review, the sponsor or any other representative may move that the legislation be reviewed by a standing committee before the legislation's consideration on the floor. If this motion is approved by a majority of the representatives present, the legislation shall be referred to a standing committee for consideration.

(u) In addition to the committees discussed above, there are other statutory committees such as the Joint Committee on Finance and the Joint Committee for the Review of Administrative Rules. These committees generally follow the rules of the respective houses for appointments.