

**Table 3.6**  
**SENATE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS: METHODS OF SELECTION**

State or other jurisdiction	President	President pro tem	Majority leader	Assistant majority leader	Majority floor leader	Assistant majority floor leader	Majority whip	Majority caucus chair	Minority leader	Assistant minority leader	Minority floor leader	Assistant minority floor leader	Minority whip	Minority caucus chair
Alabama (b)	(a)	ES	(b)	...	...	...	EC	EC	...	...	...	...	EC	EC
Alaska	ES	...	EC	...	...	...	EC	EC	(b)	EC	...	...	EC	EC
Arizona	ES	AP	EC	...	...	...	EC	EC	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC
Arkansas	(a)	ES	EC	...	...	...	EC	EC	...	...	...	...	EC	EC
California	(a)	ES	EC	...	...	...	EC	EC	...	...	...	...	EC	EC
Colorado	ES	ES	EC	EC	AP	AP	EC	EC	EC	AL	AL	AL	EC	AL
Connecticut (c)	(a)	ES	AP	AP	AP	AP	AP	AP	EC	AL	AL	AL	AL	AL
Delaware	(a)	EC	EC	...	...	...	EC	EC	EC	...	...	...	EC	EC
Florida (mm)	EC/ES	ES	AP	AL	...	...	EC	EC	EC	EC	...	...	AL	AL
Georgia	(a)	ES	EC	...	...	...	EC	EC	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC
Hawaii	ES	ES (e)	EC	...	EC	EC	EC	EC (f)	EC	EC	EC	...	...	...
Idaho	(a)	ES	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC	EC	EC	...	...	...	EC
Illinois	ES	AP	AP	AP	...	...	AP	AP	EC	AL	...	...	AL	AL
Indiana	(a)	ES	...	AT	AT	AT	EC	EC	EC	EC	(h)	EC	(h)	EC
Iowa	ES	ES	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC
Kansas	ES	ES (e)	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC
Kentucky (f)	ES	ES	...	...	...	...	EC	EC	...	...	...	...	...	...
Louisiana	ES	ES	...	...	...	...	...	...	EC	EC	...	...	...	...
Maine (ll)	ES	ES	EC	EC	(j)	(j)	(k)	(k)	EC	EC	(l)	(l)	(m)	(m)
Maryland	ES	ES	AP	AP (n)	AP	AP (n)	AP	AP	EC (o)	EC	(o)	(o)	EC	EC
Massachusetts	EC	...	AP	AP	...	...	EC	(p)	EC	EC	...	...	EC	(p)
Michigan (q)	(a)	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC
Minnesota	ES	ES	EC	EC	...	...	AL	...	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC
Mississippi	(a)	ES	...	...	...	...	EC	EC	...	...	...	...	EC	EC
Missouri (d)	(a)	ES	...	...	EC	EC	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC	EC	EC
Montana	ES	ES	EC	...	EC (i)	EC (i)	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC (l)	EC	EC	EC
Nbraska (U)(g)	(a)	ES (r)	...	...	EC	EC	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC	EC	(nm)
Nevada (s)	(a)	ES	AP	AP	EC	EC	EC (s)	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	AL	AL
New Hampshire	ES	ES	AP	MA	MA	MA	MA	MA	EC	MI	MI	MI	MI	MI
New Jersey	ES	ES	MA	MA	MA	MA	MA	MA	EC	MI	MI	MI	MI	MI
New Mexico	(a)	ES	EC (l)	EC (l)	EC (l)	EC (l)	EC	EC	EC (t)	EC (t)	EC (t)	EC (t)	EC	EC
New York (u)	(a)	ES	(v)	AT (v)	AT (v)	AT (v)	AT	AT (v)	EC (t)	AL (v)	AL (v)	AL (v)	AL (v)	AL (v)
North Carolina	(a)	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC (v)	EC (v)	EC (v)	EC (v)	EC	EC
North Dakota	(a)	ES	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC	EC	EC	...	...	EC	EC
Ohio (w)(x)	ES	ES	...	ES	ES	ES	ES	ES	ES (x)	ES	...	...	ES	ES
Oklahoma	(a)	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
Oregon	ES	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
Pennsylvania	ES	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
Rhode Island (y)	ES	ES	EC	AL	...	...	AL	...	EC	AL	...	...	AL	...
South Carolina	(a)	ES	EC	...	...	...	EC	...	EC	...	...	...	EC	...
South Dakota	(a)	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
Tennessee	(a)	AP	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
Texas	(a)	ES	...	...	EC (z)	EC (z)	EC	...	EC	...	...	EC (z)	EC	EC (z)
Utah	ES	AL (z)	EC	...	EC (aa)	EC (aa)	EC	EC (aa)	EC	EC	EC (aa)	EC (aa)	EC	EC (aa)
Vermont	(a)	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC

See footnotes at end of table.

SENATE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS: METHODS OF SELECTION — Continued

State or other jurisdiction	President	President pro tem	Majority leader	Assistant majority leader	Majority floor leader	Assistant majority floor leader	Majority whip	Majority caucus chair	Minority leader	Assistant minority leader	Minority floor leader	Assistant minority floor leader	Minority whip	Minority caucus chair
Virginia.....	(a)	ES	EC (bb)	EC (bb)	EC (bb)	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
Washington (cs).....	(a)	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
West Virginia.....	ES	AP	AP	AP	AP	AP	AP	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	AL	EC
Wisconsin.....	ES (dd)	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
Wyoming.....	ES	ES (e)	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
Dist. of Columbia (U).....	(ee)	(ff)	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
American Samoa.....	ES	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
Guam (U)(gg).....	ES (f)	ES (e)	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC	EC
No. Mariana Islands.....	ES (hh)	EC	(hh)	ES (hi)	ES (hi)	EC	EC	(kk)	EC (p)	EC (p)	EC (j)	EC	EC	EC
Puerto Rico.....	ES (f)	EC	EC	EC (jj)	EC (jj)	EC	EC	(kk)	EC (p)	EC (p)	EC (j)	EC	EC	EC
U.S. Virgin Islands (U).....	ES	EC	ES	EC	EC	EC	EC	ES	ES	ES	EC	EC	EC	ES

Source: The Council of State Governments' survey, January 2017 and state websites 2017.

Note: In some states, the leadership positions in the Senate are not empowered by the law or by the rules of the chamber, but rather by the party members themselves. Entry following slash indicates number of individuals holding specified position.

Key:

ES — Elected or confirmed by all members of the Senate.

EC — Elected by party caucus.

AP — Appointed by president.

AT — Appointed by president pro tempore.

AL — Appointed by party leader.

MA — Elected by majority party.

MI — Elected by minority party.

(U) — Unicameral legislative body.

... — Position does not exist or is not selected on a regular basis.

(a) Lieutenant governor is president of the Senate by virtue of the office.

(b) Majority leader elected by the members of the majority party. Minority leader elected by members of the minority party. Additional leadership positions: deputy president pro tempore- appointed by committee on Assignments and Dean of Senate- appointed by Committee on Assignments

(c) Other position titles and methods of selection are as follows: chief deputy president pro tem (AT), deputy president pro tem (AT), assistant president pro tem (AT), Senate minority leader pro tem (AL), deputy Senate minority leader pro tem (AL), chief deputy minority leader (AL).

(d) Additional positions of minority caucus secretary (EC) and majority caucus secretary (EC).

(e) Official title is vice president. In Guam, vice speaker.

(f) Official title is majority caucus leader.

(g) Additional positions appointed by the majority leader: Senate Finance Committee chair, vice president pro tem, Majority Program Development Committee Chair, Majority Steering Committee chair, two assistant majority leaders, various deputies and assistants. Additional positions appoint by the minority leader: Senate Finance Committee ranking member, Minority Policy Committee chair, Minority Program Development chair, three additional minority leaders, various deputies and assistants.

(h) Appointed by minority leader.

(i) In each chamber, the membership elects chief clerk; assistant clerk; enrolling clerk; sergeant-at-arms; doorkeeper; janitor; cloakroom keeper; and pages.

(j) Same position as majority leader.

(k) Same position as assistant majority leader.

(l) Same position as minority leader.

(m) Same position as assistant minority leader.

(n) Majority leader also serves as majority floor leader; deputy majority leader is official title and serves as assistant majority floor leader. There is also an assistant deputy majority leader, a majority whip, deputy majority whip, and two assistant majority whips.

(o) Minority leader also serves as the minority floor leader.

(p) President and minority floor leader are also caucus chairs. In Puerto Rico, president and minority leader. In Oregon, majority leader and minority leader.

(q) Senate Rule 1.104 provides that the president pro tempore (ES), assistant president pro tempore (ES), and the associate president pro tempore (ES) are elected by a majority of the Senate.

(r) Official title is speaker. In Guam the Speaker is elected on the Floor by majority and minority members on Inauguration Day.

(s) Co-whips elected for 2017 session.

(t) Majority leader also serves as majority floor leader. Minority leader also serves as minority floor leader.

(u) Majority, appointed by president pro tem; Assistant majority leader on conference operations, Deputy majority whip, Assistant Senate majority whip, Deputy majority leader for policy, et al. Minority, appointed by minority leader; Assistant democratic conference leader for conference operations. Vice chair of democratic conference, Deputy democratic conference whip. Assistant democratic conference whip, et al.

(v) President pro tem is also majority leader. Assistant majority leader is called deputy majority leader for legislative operations. Majority floor leader is called assistant majority leader for house operations. Majority caucus chair called Senate majority caucus chair. Minority leader is called democratic conference leader, and independent democratic conference leader (i.e. two minority conferences); voting usually falls along conference lines. Assistant minority leader; is called deputy democratic conference leader and deputy independent democratic conference leader. Minority floor leader is called assistant democratic leader for floor operations. Assistant minority floor leader is called deputy democratic conference floor leader. Minority whip is called democratic conference whip, and independent democratic conference whip. Minority caucus chair is called chair of democratic conference.

(w) While the entire membership actually votes on the election of leaders, selections generally have been made by the members of each party prior to the date of this formal election.

(x) In Ohio, president acts as majority leader and caucus chair; minority leader also acts as minority caucus chair; the fourth ranking minority leadership position is assistant minority whip (ES).

**SENATE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS: METHODS OF SELECTION — Continued**

- (y) Additional positions include deputy president pro tempore.
- (z) President pro tem appointed by party leader via Legislative Rules, SRL-3-103. Official title for majority floor leader is known as the assistant majority whip; the assistant minority floor leader is known as the assistant minority whip and the minority caucus chair is known as minority caucus manager.
- (aa) Majority leader serves as majority floor leader and majority caucus chair. Assistant majority leader serves as assistant majority floor leader and majority whip. Minority leader serves as minority floor leader and minority caucus chair. Assistant minority leader serves as assistant minority floor leader and minority whip.
- (bb) Majority party and Minority party in Senate elects caucus officers.
- (cc) Washington Senate also has the leadership position of vice-president pro tem.
- (dd) Caucus nominee elected by whole membership.
- (ee) Chair of the Council, which is an elected position.
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- (ff) Appointed by the chair; official title is chair pro tem.
- (gg) Additional positions include: Parliamentarian, elected by majority caucus and Senior Senator, elected by majority caucus.
- (hh) Speaker also serves as majority leader.
- (ii) Official title is floor leader.
- (jj) Official title is alternate floor leader.
- (kk) Official title is caucus chair.
- (ll) Secretary of the Senate and Assistant Secretary of the Senate, both elected by the Senate membership.
- (mm) All positions other than president, president pro tempore and majority leader are party caucus designations.
- (nn) Co-Minority Caucus Coordinators elected by party caucus.