

**Table 3.23**  
**STANDING COMMITTEES: APPOINTMENT AND NUMBER**

State or other jurisdiction	Committee members appointed by:		Committee chairpersons appointed by:		Number of standing committees during regular 2016 session		
	Senate	House/Assembly	Senate	House/Assembly	Senate	House/Assembly	Joint
Alabama.....	(v)	S	(v)	S	25	25	5
Alaska.....	CC	CC	CC	CC	10	10	11
Arizona.....	P	S	P	S	16	19	1
Arkansas.....	(a)	(b)	(a)	S	9	10	24
California.....	CR	S	CR	S	22	31	7
Colorado.....	MjL	S	MjL	S	10	11	3
Connecticut.....	CC	CC	CC	CC	22 (c)	22 (c)	22 (c)
Delaware.....	PT	S	PT	S	24	25	3
Florida.....	P	S	P	S	20	10	4
Georgia.....	CC	S	CC	S	30	38	1
Hawaii.....	P	S	P	(d)	16	19	...
Idaho.....	PT (f)	S	PT	S	10	14	3
Illinois.....	P,MnL (w)	S,MnL (w)	P,MnL (w)	S	22	36	...
Indiana.....	PT	S	PT	S	23	25	...
Iowa.....	MjL,MnL	S (x)	MjL	S	17	19	...
Kansas.....	(g)	S	P	S	15	23	19
Kentucky.....	CC	CC	CC	CC	15	19	15
Louisiana.....	P	S (h)	P	S	17	17	2
Maine.....	P	S	P	S	5	6	(i)
Maryland.....	P	S	P	S	5	7	19
Massachusetts.....	P	S	P	S	7	9	27
Michigan.....	MjL	S	MjL	S	22	24	...
Minnesota.....	CR	S	S	S	13	28	...
Mississippi.....	P	S	P	S	43	46	2
Missouri.....	PT (j)	S	PT	S	18	42	19
Montana.....	CC	S	CC	S	16	16	1
Nebraska.....	CC	U	E	U	14	U	U
Nevada.....	MjL (e)	S	MjL	S	10	10	...
New Hampshire.....	P (k)	S (k)	P (k)	S (k)	11	21	...
New Jersey.....	CC	CC	CC	CC	14	24	6
New Mexico.....	CC	S	CC	S	9 (l)	16 (l)	...
New York.....	PT	S	PT	S	37	37	...
North Carolina.....	PT	S	PT	S	18	28	...
North Dakota.....	CC	CC	CC	CC	11	11	...
Ohio.....	P (m)	S (m)	P (m)	S (m)	16	20	...
Oklahoma.....	PT (e)	S	PT	S	16	21	...
Oregon.....	P	S	P	S	13	15	14
Pennsylvania.....	PT	S	PT	S	22	27	...
Rhode Island.....	P	S	P	S	10	11	3
South Carolina.....	(n)	S	(o)	E	15	11	...
South Dakota.....	PT	S	PT	S	13	13	1
Tennessee.....	S	S	S	S	9	14	15
Texas.....	P	S (p)	P	S	14	38	1
Utah.....	P	S	P	S	11	14	0
Vermont.....	CC	S	CC	S	11	14	13
Virginia.....	E	S	(q)	S	11	14	...
Washington.....	CC	CC	CC (r)	CC (s)	15	23	7
West Virginia.....	P	S	P	S	19	18	...
Wisconsin.....	MjL	S	MjL	S	18	44	10
Wyoming.....	P	S	P	S	12	12	12
Dist. of Columbia.....	(t)	U	(t)	U	14	U	U
American Samoa.....	P	S	E	S	16	20	...
Guam.....	(u)	U	(u)	U	12	U	...
No. Mariana Islands.....	P	S	P	S	8	8	...
Puerto Rico.....	P	S	P	S	23	30	...
U.S. Virgin Islands.....	E	U	E	U	10	U	U

See footnotes at end of table.

STANDING COMMITTEES: APPOINTMENT AND NUMBER — Continued

*Source:* The Council of State Governments' survey, March 2016.

*Key:*

CC—Committee on Committees

CR—Committee on Rules

E—Election

MjL—Majority Leader

MnL—Minority Leader

P—President

PT—President pro tempore

S—Speaker

U—Unicameral Legislature

...—None reported.

(a) Selection process based on seniority.

(b) Members of the standing committees shall be selected by House District Caucuses with each caucus selecting five members for each "A" standing committee and five members for each "B" standing committee.

(c) Substantive standing committees are joint committees. There are also three joint statutory committees.

(d) By resolution with members of majority party designating the chair, vice-chairs and majority party members of committees, and members of minority party designating minority party members.

(e) Minority Leader selects minority members.

(f) Committee members appointed by the Senate leadership under the direction of the president pro tempore, by and with the Senate's consent.

(g) Committee on Organization, Calendar and Rules.

(h) Speaker appoints only 12 of the 19 members of the Committee on Appropriations.

(i) There are currently 16 Joint Standing Committees, two Joint Select Committees, and a joint Government Oversight Committee.

(j) Senate minority committee members chosen by minority caucus, but appointed by president pro tempore.

(k) Senate president and House speaker consult with minority leaders.

(l) Senate: includes eight substantive committees and one procedural committee. House: includes 12 substantive committees and three procedural committees.

(m) The minority leader may recommend for consideration minority party members for each committee.

(n) Appointment based on seniority (Senate Rule 19D).

(o) Appointed by seniority which is determined by tenure within the committee rather than tenure within the Senate. Also, chair is based on the majority party within the committee (Senate Rule 19E).

(p) For each standing substantive committee of the House, except for the appropriations committee, a maximum of one-half of the membership, exclusive of chair and vice-chair, is determined by seniority; the remaining membership of the committee is determined by the speaker.

(q) In the Virginia Senate, the chair is the committee member from the majority party who has the most seniority.

(r) Recommended by the Committee on Committees, approved by the president, then confirmed by the Senate.

(s) Recommended by the Committee on Committees, then confirmed by the House.

(t) Chair of the Council.

(u) Members are appointed by the Chairperson; Chairperson is elected during majority caucus prior to inauguration.

(v) Committee on Assignments.

(w) Senate: President and Minority Leader appoint committee members including chairperson and minority spokesperson. House: Speaker appoints chairperson and majority members; Minority Leader appoints minority members.

(x) Speaker confers with Minority Leader regarding minority member appointments.