



# U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations

*PRESS RELEASE*

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For immediate release: Tuesday, November 14, 2006

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## **Byrd Welcomes New Members to Appropriations Committee**

*Hopes Spirit of Bipartisan Cooperation to Steer New Congress*

WASHINGTON, D.C.... U.S. Senator Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., the incoming chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, announced Tuesday that three new Democratic Senators will join the panel in the 110th Congress.

"I am excited by the prospects for cooperation and progress in the next Congress. There are a good number of problems and issues facing us. Working together, Democrats and Republicans, we will find the best solutions for the country," Byrd stated.

New committee members include two Senators who have served on the committee previously -- Senator Jack Reed of Rhode Island and Senator Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey. The third Senator to join the committee is Senator Ben Nelson of Nebraska.

"These new members bring experience and unique perspectives to our committee. Their expertise and ideas will be welcome," Byrd stated.

Byrd also thanked Senator Harry Reid of Nevada for his long service on the Appropriations Committee. Reid has been a member of the panel since 1987. He has decided to step away from the Appropriations Committee and concentrate on his responsibilities as the new Senate Majority Leader.

"Senator Harry Reid has exemplified the bipartisan spirit of the Appropriations Committee, where Democrats and Republicans reach across party lines to find solutions that best serve the country. We will miss him on the Committee," Byrd said. "I hope that the spirit of cooperation on the Appropriations Committee will serve as a model for the entire Senate in the coming months."

It is anticipated that the number of Senators placed on each committee will follow the example set in the 108th Congress, the last time there was a 51-49 Senate. Appropriations subcommittee assignments will be determined in the coming weeks.

**Appropriations Committee Democratic Membership, 110<sup>th</sup> Congress**

*Senator Robert C. **Byrd**, West Virginia, Chairman*

Senator Daniel **Inouye**, Hawaii

Senator Patrick **Leahy**, Vermont

Senator Tom **Harkin**, Iowa

Senator Barbara **Mikulski**, Maryland

Senator Herb **Kohl**, Wisconsin

Senator Patty **Murray**, Washington

Senator Byron **Dorgan**, North Dakota

Senator Dianne **Feinstein**, California

Senator Dick **Durbin**, Illinois

Senator Tim **Johnson**, South Dakota

Senator Mary **Landrieu**, Louisiana

Senator Jack **Reed**, Rhode Island

Senator Frank **Lautenberg**, New Jersey

Senator Ben **Nelson**, Nebraska

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