

**AUTHORIZATION AND OVERSIGHT PLAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET
118th CONGRESS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERSIGHT

Under clause 2(d) of House Rule X, the Chair of each Committee is required to adopt and submit to the Committees on Oversight and Accountability and House Administration an authorization and oversight plan by March 1 of the first session of each Congress. The Budget Committee's oversight responsibilities are determined by both the breadth of the federal budget and the Committee's legislative jurisdiction.

Under clause 1(d)(1) of House Rule X, the primary responsibility of the Budget Committee is to develop a concurrent resolution on the budget for a fiscal year. This concurrent resolution sets aggregate levels on spending and revenue and across budget functions (a set of programs that serve a shared purpose or activity, such as agriculture, health, or national defense).

Although the subject matter of the budget is inherently broad, in addition to oversight of the budget and the economy, the Committee's formal oversight responsibility focuses on laws governing the budget process and the agencies responsible for administering elements of those laws. Under clauses 1(d)(1)-(3) of House Rule X, the major laws falling within its oversight include the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921, the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, the Budget Control Act of 2011, and the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019. The two agencies with primary responsibility for administering elements of these laws and hence which fall under the Committee's jurisdiction are the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

In addition to these general oversight responsibilities, the Budget Committee has special oversight responsibilities under clauses 3(c) and 4(b) of House Rule X such as to study the effect on budget outlays of existing and proposed legislation and to request and evaluate continuing studies of tax expenditures.

OVERSIGHT PLAN FOR THE 118th CONGRESS

Budget Priorities

In the process of developing the annual concurrent budget resolution, the Committee will hold hearings and receive testimony from Members of Congress, Cabinet-level and other federal officials, and expert witnesses to review the budget and economic outlook, the President's budget submissions, other budget priorities, and evaluate evidence on the state of the economy and the nation's long-term economic outlook.

The Committee will also review the congressional budget process, including topics such as strengthening constitutional authority, including Congress' power of the purse by ensuring spending and revenue decisions are transparent and effectively carried out by the Executive Branch; controlling automatic spending; increasing transparency; and ensuring fiscal sustainability.

The Committee will also continually assess the performance of federal agencies in both administration and service delivery by reviewing performance data in the President's budget submissions and the relevant reports and audits of the Government Accountability Office and the Offices of the Inspectors General. The Committee will also assess OMB's legal authorities to manage federal spending, including the Impoundment Control Act of 1974, and review budget rules and processes.

The Committee will study the budgetary effects of existing law and proposed legislation, as well as government regulation on government spending, and explore ways to reduce waste, fraud, and abuse in government agencies.

The Committee will draw on the authorizing committees' Views and Estimates, which are submitted to it pursuant to section 301(d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, to coordinate development of the annual concurrent budget resolution.

Budget Enforcement

The Committee will provide ongoing oversight of OMB's implementation of budget submission, control, execution, and enforcement procedures under the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921, the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, the Budget Control Act of 2011, and other applicable laws.

The Committee will also ensure compliance with the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 in addition to the budget-related provisions of H. Res. 5. As part of these responsibilities, the Chair may provide authoritative guidance concerning the impact of a legislative proposition on the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority and revenues.

The Committee will also work with the Appropriations and authorizing committees to ensure that spending and tax legislation does not breach the levels set in the budget resolution, as required under sections 302(f) and 311(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and the budget-related provisions of H. Res. 5. The Committee will also monitor compliance with the House Cut-As-You-Go (CUTGO) rule requiring direct spending increases be offset with direct spending reductions.

Federal Spending and Tax Expenditures

The Committee will evaluate continuing studies of tax expenditures and spending by the federal government and consider whether changes are warranted.

Economic Policy

The Committee will study how economic policies affect the Federal budget. The Committee will also study monetary policy and its effects on the Federal budget. The Committee plans to take testimony from the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Jerome H. Powell, to review economic conditions, fiscal conditions, and monetary policy.

Oversight of the Congressional Budget Office

CBO was established by the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 in order to provide Congress with economic and budgetary analysis and cost estimates for proposed legislation. The Committee will provide oversight of CBO's work, including scoring of legislation considered by Congress, production of baseline estimates, and other projects on important budgetary issues.

CBO has not been comprehensively reauthorized since the enactment of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. It operates under a permanent indefinite authorization. The Committee plans to exercise its oversight responsibility over CBO through hearings and other activities.

Oversight of the Office of Management and Budget

OMB's responsibilities include administering elements of several laws within the Committee's jurisdiction. The Committee will provide oversight of OMB, including its legal authorities to manage federal spending, as well as implementation of the President's budget submission, control, budget execution, and enforcement procedures under current law.

OVERSIGHT SCHEDULE

The following are the Committee's initial plans for hearings and other oversight activities:

First Session (2023)

Winter 2023 – Hearing on CBO's Economic and Budget Outlook: Director of CBO.

Spring 2023 – Hearings on the President's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget:

Director of OMB

Secretary of the Treasury

Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services

Secretary of the Department of Defense

Spring 2023 – Hearing on Budget Priorities for the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget: Members of Congress

Spring 2023 – Receive Views and Estimates from other Committees to coordinate development of the annual concurrent budget resolution.

Additional hearings on topics to be announced.

Second Session (2024)

Winter 2024– Hearing on CBO's Economic and Budget Outlook: Director of CBO

Winter 2024 – Hearings on the President’s Fiscal Year 2025 Budget:
Director of OMB
Secretary of the Treasury
Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services
Secretary of the Department of Defense

Winter 2024 – Hearing on Budget Priorities for the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget: Members of Congress

Winter 2024: Receive Views and Estimates from other Committees to coordinate development of the annual concurrent budget resolution.

Spring 2024 – Hearing on the economy, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

Additional hearings on topics to be announced.