

John Cornyn



John Cornyn, of San Antonio, is a voice for Texas values in Washington. He was sworn in to the U.S. Senate on December 2, 2002, succeeding Phil Gramm.

Sen. Cornyn continues to take a leading role on many issues in the Senate. He is committed to bolstering America's national defense and homeland security, working to strengthen the economy and grow jobs, making health care more accessible, and improving educational opportunity for all Texans.

After just one year in the Senate, John Cornyn was chosen by leadership to serve as a Deputy Whip. As a member of the Whip team, he helps mobilize votes and support on major issues. Sen. Cornyn serves on five key Senate committees: Armed Services; Judiciary; Budget; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and the Joint Economic Committee. He chairs the Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship and the Armed Services Committee's subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities.

Sen. Cornyn is a prominent supporter of President Bush's judicial nominees, he continues to work for Texas military personnel and veterans, and has been a leader on working to bring about common sense, balanced immigration reform. He stands as a dedicated defender of free markets, traditional values, and individual liberty.

In addition to his legislative committees, Sen. Cornyn is the chairman of the Senate India Caucus, vice chairman of the Senate Republican Conference Task Force on Hispanic Affairs, vice chairman of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, and a member of the Senate Republican Task Force on Health Care Costs and the Uninsured, the Senate Republican High Tech Task Force, Congressional Oversight Group on Trade, and the President's Export Council. While in the Senate, John Cornyn has received various

awards and recognitions, including the 2005 Border Texan of the Year Award; the National Child Support Enforcement Association's Children's Champion Award; the American Farm Bureau Federation's Friend of Farm Bureau Award; the Texas Association of Business's Fighter for Free Enterprise Award; and the Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce's (TAMACC) International Leadership Legislative Award; among others.

As Texas Attorney General from 1999-2002, John Cornyn directed many initiatives vital to the interests of Texas families. Cornyn served for six years as a District Court Judge in San Antonio before being elected to the Texas Supreme Court in 1990, where he served for seven years.

John Cornyn was born in Houston on February 2, 1952, the son of John and Gale Cornyn, both native Texans. His father, a B-17 pilot in World War II, served for thirty-one years in the U.S. Air Force and, later, taught at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. A graduate of Trinity University and St. Mary's School of Law, both in San Antonio, John Cornyn also earned a Masters

of Law from the University of Virginia Law School in 1995. He was named the St. Mary's Distinguished Law School Graduate in 1994 and a Trinity University Distinguished Alumnus in 2001.

Sen. Cornyn is married to Sandy, his wife of 26 years. They have two daughters.

Senator John Cornyn's Committee Assignments

ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services has jurisdiction over all aspects of national defense and homeland security; the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, and the Department of the Air Force; military research and development; national security aspects of nuclear energy; pay, promotion, retirement, and other benefits and privileges of members of the Armed Forces, including overseas education of civilian and military dependents; selective service system; aeronautical and space activities peculiar to or primarily associated with the development of weapons systems or military operations as well as strategic and critical materials necessary for the common defense.

- Chairman Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee
- Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
- Strategic Forces Subcommittee

JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is responsible for overseeing the nomination process of all federal judges for circuit and district courts as well as justices nominated to the Supreme Court. Other key areas of responsibility of the committee are immigration and naturalization, state and territorial boundary lines and civil liberties. The Committee also oversees all federal courts, including civil and criminal courts. The Judiciary Committee has one of the broadest jurisdictions in the Senate, ranging from criminal justice to antitrust and intellectual property law.

- Chairman Immigration, Border Security, and Citizenship Subcommittee
- Constitution, Civil Rights, and Property Rights Subcommittee
- Corrections and Rehabilitation Subcommittee
- Intellectual Property Subcommittee
- Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security Subcommittee

BUDGET

The Senate Committee on the Budget is responsible for drafting Congress' annual budget plan and monitoring action on the budget for the Federal Government. In addition, the Budget Committee has jurisdiction over the operation of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). The budget resolution prepared by the Budget Committee sets out a broad blueprint for the government as a whole, whereas the Finance Committee and the Appropriations Committee prepare the legislation that actually enacts specific tax and spending policies.

SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

U.S. Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-Maine) will continue to chair the Small Business Committee in the 109th Congress. Originally established as the Special Committee to Study and Survey Problems of Small Business Enterprises on October 8, 1940, the committee's functions were transferred to the Select Committee on Small Business in 1950, and became a standing committee on March 25, 1981. The committee has jurisdiction over the Small Business Administration, as well as survey and research of American small business enterprises.

JOINT ECONOMIC

The Joint Economic Committee was established as a result of the Employment Act of 1946. The legislation created both the President's Council of Economic Advisers and the Joint Economic Committee. The panels are tasked with reviewing economic conditions, and with recommending improvements and policies. Chairmanship of the Committee alternates between the Senate and House every Congress. The Chairman of the Committee for the 108th Congress was U.S. Sen. Robert Bennett (R-Utah); the vice chairman was U.S. Rep. Jim Saxton (R-N.J.).

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