

## II.

The Conference shall adopt a “Conference Legislative Agenda” for the coming Congress to outline the general legislative goals. The “Agenda” shall be adopted by a three-fourths majority of the Conference.

## III.

The Chairman may call a Conference at any time and shall call a Conference whenever requested to do so by the Policy Committee or in writing by five or more Senators. The Policy Committee shall meet at least once in two weeks, on a fixed day of the week and at a fixed hour to be determined by the Committee. It may meet at any time on the call of its Chairman. The Committee shall permit any Senator to appear before it upon his request to present any matter in which he is interested.

## IV.

The Chairman of the Conference shall preside at all Conference meetings and perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Conference.

The Vice Chairman shall keep accurate minutes of all Conference proceedings. The minutes of the Conference and of all meetings of committees of the Conference shall be kept by the Secretary for the Minority or Majority, as the case may be, which minutes shall be open to inspection by any member of the Conference. The Vice Chairman or the Secretary for the Minority or Majority, as the case may be, shall notify members of all Conference and Committee meetings. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall have the same powers and duties to call meetings of the Conference as the Chairman.

The Floor Leader shall perform the customary duties of the Majority or Minority Leader, as the case may be, on the floor of the Senate and shall have full authority to deal with all questions of procedure after consulting the Republican Senators who are concerned.

The Assistant Floor Leader shall assist in securing attendance of members at Party Conferences and upon the floor of the Senate when their presence is considered necessary by the Chairman or the Floor Leader and shall perform such other duties as the Chairman or Floor Leader may require.

The Policy Committee shall consider the legislative program in the Senate and the question whether any Party policy is involved, shall prepare and present recommendations for action by the Conference, and shall advise all Senators on legislative matters which they desire to present to the Policy Committee.

## V.

A Committee on Committees shall be appointed at the beginning of each Congress to prepare and recommend to the Conference the complete assignments of Republican Senators to committees listed in Rule XXV, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, as well as the Committee on Rules and Administration, and shall recommend the filling of vacancies occurring during the Congress. All other committee assignments shall be made by the Floor Leader unless otherwise specified by law. The Committee shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Conference immediately after his election, subject to confirmation by the Conference.

Subsequent to the selection of committee members, the Republican members of each standing committee at the beginning of each Congress shall select from their number a chairman or ranking minority member, who need not be the member with the longest consecutive service on such committee, subject to confirmation by the Conference. But in any event the selection shall be by a majority of the Republican members of such committee. There shall be a vote taken in the committee and in the Conference by a separate secret written ballot. All secret ballot elections shall be conducted by the Party Secretary. (Republican Conference Minutes, November 18, 2008.)

If the Republican Conference shall fail to approve a recommendation of any such standing committee for the position of chairman or ranking minority member, the matter shall be recommitted to such committee with instructions to submit another recommendation.

With the exception of chairman or ranking member, rank on each committee shall be determined by length of service on the committee.

The Leader shall have the authority to appoint half of all vacancies of each “A” committee, and where there are an odd number of vacancies the Leader appoints half plus one of all vacancies.

Effective in the 108th Congress, all Republican Conference members shall be offered two “A” committee slots in order of seniority. Each member may retain only one “B” committee assignment from the previous Congress. Following such process, any remaining “A” committee assignments shall be made by the Floor Leader unless otherwise specified by law.

Should a Senator leave a committee and return to the committee in a subsequent Congress, that Senator would lose previous seniority and return as a junior member.

This rule shall not apply to any committee membership or chairman or ranking minority position held prior to the 93rd Congress.