TaxNewsFlash

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Conferees for tax reform conference

The U.S. Senate yesterday voted to proceed to conference on tax reform legislation and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) named Republican conferees. Today, Senate Minority Leader Schumer (D-NY) named Democratic conferees.

Last week, House Speaker Ryan and House Minority Leader Pelosi, respectively, announced the House Republican and Democrat conferees. Read *TaxNewsFlash*. There has been one change to the initially announced Republican conferees: Rep. Upton (R-MI) has replaced Rep. Walden (R-OR) as an Energy and Commerce Committee representative.

KPMG observation

With all conferees having been named, a formal conference committee meeting could be convened at any time. Although the conference committee must approve (by a majority vote) any final conference agreement, details can be negotiated behind the scenes.

House and Senate Republicans would like to reach a conference agreement as soon as possible. For tax reform to become law, both the House and Senate would need to pass the conference agreement (without amendment), and the president would need to sign the legislation. The conference agreement must meet budget reconciliation requirements to move through the Senate with a simple majority vote (rather than the 60 votes typically needed to avoid a filibuster).

For more on the House bill, the Senate bill, and budget reconciliation, read:

- **House tax reform bill – Initial observations on House-passed bill** [PDF 1.8 MB]
- **Senate tax reform bill – Initial observations on Senate-passed bill** [PDF 1.3 MB]

Senate conferees

Republicans	Democrats
Orrin Hatch (R-UT)	Ron Wyden (D-OR)
John Cornyn (R-TX)	Bernie Sanders (I-VT)
John Thune (R- SD)	Patty Murray (D-WA)
Rob Portman (R-OH)	Maria Cantwell (D-WA)
Tim Scott (R-SC)	Bob Menendez (D-NJ)
Pat Toomey (R-PA)	Tom Carper (D-DE)
Mike Enzi (R-WY)	
Lisa Murkowski (R-AL)	

House conferees

Republicans	Democrats
Kevin Brady (R-TX)	Richard Neal (D-MA)
Devin Nunes (R-CA)	Sander Levin (D-MI)
Peter Roskam (R-IL)	Lloyd Doggett (D-TX)
Diane Black (R-TN)	Raul Grijalva (D-AZ)
Rob Bishop (R-UT)	Kathy Castor (D-FL)
Don Young (R-AK)	
Fred Upton (R-MI)	
John Shimkus (R-IL)	