



# TaxNewsFlash

## United States

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### Tax reform conference committee convenes

The U.S. House and Senate conferees for H.R. 1, the “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act,” formally met for the first time.

The chairman of the conference committee, Kevin Brady (R-TX) (who is also chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee) explained that there must be at least one formal meeting of all conferees. At the meeting, each member of the conference committee (the conferees are listed in the tables below) was given the opportunity to make an opening statement and to ask questions. However, amendments were not in order.

Tom Barthold, the Chief of Staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation, walked through key differences between the House and Senate versions of the legislation.

#### 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)	

## Opening statements at conference committee meeting

- Read Chairman Brady's [opening statement](#)
- Read Ways and Means ranking member Richard Neal's [opening statement](#)
- Read Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch's [opening statement](#)
- Read Senate Finance ranking member Ron Wyden's [opening statement](#)

## KPMG observation

During today's meeting, Chairman Brady indicated that a "deal" on key issues was close. No official paper has yet been released on such a deal. In addition, details were not announced during today's meeting. In response to a question, Chairman Brady indicated that he anticipated that the final conference agreement would be released by the end of the week and that the House and Senate would vote on the agreement early next week.

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