

New Member of Ethics and Policy; Ranking Member of Agriculture Subcommittee

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Jo Bonner (R-AL) today announced his committee assignments for the 110th Congress. Bonner will continue to serve on the Committees on Agriculture, the Budget, and Science and Technology and will serve on the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, also known as the Ethics Committee, and the Republican Policy Committee. Bonner has also been named ranking member on the House Agriculture Committee's Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry Subcommittee.

“***I am extremely honored to continue serving on the Agriculture, Budget, and Science Committees, and I am appreciative of the confidence the members of the Steering Committee have demonstrated in me by appointing me to four prestigious committees. The Budget, Science, and Agriculture panels are vital to many of the most important aspects of today's economy, and with the topic of ethics being at the forefront of so many discussions in Washington, I am humbled that my peers would appoint me to the House Ethics Committee.***”

The Committee on the Budget is responsible for establishing appropriate budget totals for the government, while the Committee on Science and Technology is responsible for programs ranging from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to the National Weather Service and marine conservation and energy development. The Committee on Agriculture is charged with the authorization of projects in areas ranging from conservation and commodities to specialty crops and livestock, and the Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry Subcommittee is responsible for areas including agency oversight, special investigations, food stamps, and forestry.

The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct has jurisdiction over matters relating to the Code of Official Conduct. Bonner will be the first member of the Alabama delegation to serve on a congressional Ethics Committee since U.S. Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL) served in 1999. Additionally, U.S. Sen. Howell Heflin (D-AL), served as chairman of the Senate Ethics Committee for four Congresses.

The Republican Policy Committee provides the forum for members to develop legislative initiatives and establish party policies, a more important responsibility now that Republicans are in the minority.

In addition to these assignments, Bonner will again serve as an assistant on the Republican Whip Team, a position to which he was named by Republican Whip Roy Blunt (R-MO) when Bonner was an incoming freshman.