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The Republican Party has maintained its majority in the Senate and House of Representatives after the 2016 Congressional Election. In total, 469 congressional seats were up for election, comprised of 34 Senate seats, and al 435 House seats. In the Senate, Democrats claimed two seats, while Republicans lost three seats, causing a final count of 46 Democrats, 51 Republicans, and 3 Independents. In the House, Democrats claimed 6 seats, leaving a final count of 194 Democrats and 240 Republicans. Notable changes in Congressional ranks include the defeat of Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA) and Rep. David Jolly (R-FL), both avid supporters of the geosciences.

While committee chairs have yet to be formally announced, the House GOP Steering Committee elected Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR) as Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Walden will replace former chair Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI). Additionally, Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) will be filling the role of Appropriations chairman in place of former chair Rep. Hal Rugers (R-KY).

Sources: Congressman Greg Walden
