

BOX 1.2 One Down, Eight More House Committees to Go

After winning approval by the House Energy and Commerce Committee, legislation (H.R. 2454) that would create a “cap and trade” system addressing climate change was referred to eight other House committees, each with jurisdiction over parts of the bill.

Committee	Issues Facing the Committee
Agriculture	Establishment of a program to help national forests adapt to climate change. May share jurisdiction with the Financial Services Committee for the new financial derivatives market that would be created by buying and selling carbon emissions credits.
Education and the Workforce	Creation of training programs in alternative-energy technology and university grants for studying climate issues.
Financial Services	Creation of new energy use standards for housing. May share jurisdiction with the Agriculture Committee for the new financial derivatives market that would be created for buying and selling carbon emissions credits.
Foreign Affairs	Establishment of international programs to mitigate carbon emissions and climate change. Reduction of international deforestation and establishment of an international carbon offset market. Establishment of a State Department office aimed at exporting clean-energy technology.
Natural Resources	Establishment of a federal program aimed at adaptation of wildlife, oceans, and public lands to the effects of climate change.
Science, Space, and Technology	Creation of programs to research new low-carbon energy technology, including carbon sequestration and electric vehicles.
Transportation and Infrastructure	Creation of carbon emissions requirements for state and regional transportation infrastructure planning. Creation of emissions requirements for vehicles including planes, trains, and ships.
Ways and Means	Oversight and allocation of the billions in new revenue that the federal government would receive from selling carbon emissions credits to polluters.

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NOTE: The GOP-controlled 112th House (2011–2012) changed the names of the Education and Labor Committee to Education and the Workforce, and the Science and Technology Committee to Science, Space, and Technology.