

TABLE 6.1 House and Senate Scheduling Compared

House	Senate
Important role for the Rules Committee	No equivalent body; instead, unanimous consent agreements often govern floor action on measures
Majority party leaders, especially the Speaker, are the predominant force in scheduling	Majority party leaders control the flow of legislation to the floor in close consultation with minority party leaders
More formal process	Less formal process
Only key members are consulted in scheduling measures	Every reasonable effort is made to accommodate the scheduling requests of all senators
Elaborate system of formal calendars and special days for calling up measures	Heavy reliance on informal practice and personal accommodation in scheduling (Senate has only two calendars)
Party leaders can plan a rather firm schedule of daily and weekly business	Party leaders regularly juggle several measures to suit events and senators
Noncontroversial measures usually considered via suspension of the rules procedure	Noncontroversial measures passed by unanimous consent