

TABLE 2.1 Authorization–Appropriations Rules Compared

House	Senate
No unauthorized appropriations are permitted except for public works in progress. The Appropriations Committee generally cannot report a regular appropriations bill unless there is an authorization law. However, this rule is commonly waived for a reported authorization bill.	Unauthorized appropriations are not permitted. Exceptions are if the Senate has passed an authorization during that session; if an authorization is reported by any Senate standing committee, including Appropriations; or if an authorization is requested in the president's annual budget.
No legislation (policy) is permitted in an appropriations bill.	No legislation is permitted in an appropriations bill unless it is germane to legislative provisions in the House-passed bill.
No appropriation is permitted in an authorization bill. Floor amendments that propose appropriations are not in order in authorization bills.	There is no equivalent rule. (Recall that the House initiates appropriations bills and objects to Senate efforts aimed at circumventing this arrangement.)