

Client Alert: Congressional Investigations in the 117th Congress

Publications

January 12, 2021

On January 3, 2021, the 117th Congress was sworn in expecting to begin its work with a divided Democratic-controlled House and Republican-controlled Senate. But January 5th changed everything—Reverend Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff each pulled off improbable victories in the Georgia Senate runoff elections, giving Democrats (who count two Independents among their caucus) 50 seats and, with Vice President Elect Kamala Harris as the tiebreaking vote, the Senate majority. With Joe Biden as President, Nancy Pelosi as House Speaker, and Chuck Schumer as the Democratic Leader of a tied Senate, the Democrats have unified control of the executive and legislative branches for the first time since 2011, although the slim margins will undoubtedly be a challenge for the leadership of each Chamber.

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