

美国国会专用术语小词典

(英汉双解)

田 友 编译



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前　　言

《美国国会专用术语小词典》原名为“Glossary of Congressional Terms”，系由美国国会的官方刊物《国会季刊》(Congressional Quarterly)的《美国国会指南》(Guide to the Congress of the United States) 编印。译者根据其最新版本(第三版)以英汉对照的形式译出，并做了一些必要的注解。美国国会方面的学术权威在本词典内收集了有关术语，并对这些术语作了简明扼要的解释。它不仅有助于正确理解有关术语的确切含义，而且有助于了解美国国会的体制、立法程序和其他内部机制。这对学习英语的师生，对国际问题方面的学者和法律工作者等，都有一定的参考价值。

编译者

1989年10月

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Act — The term for legislation once it has passed both houses of Congress and has been signed by the President or passed over his veto, thus becoming law. Also used in parliamentary terminology for a bill that has been passed by one house and engrossed. (See Engrossed Bill.)

法案 这一术语系指一旦获国会的两院（即参议院和众议院——译注）通过，并经总统签署，或已推翻总统的否决，予以通过而成为法律的立法建议。在国会的术语中，它也指已经一院通过，并已正式写成的议案。（请参阅“正式写成的议案”）

Adjournment Sine Die — Adjournment without definitely fixing a day for reconvening; literally “adjournment without a day”. Usually used to connote the final adjournment of a session of Congress. A session can continue until noon, Jan. 3, of the following year, when, under the 20th Amendment to the Constitution, it automatically terminates.

无限期休会 休会而不明确规定复会的日期，实即“无限期休会”。通常用于表示国会一届会期（美国国会每届为期两年，每年举行定期会议，其会期称为Session——译注）的期终休会。一届会

期可延续到次年的1月3日的中午，依照宪法第二十条修正案，会议至此自行结束。

Adjournment to a Day Certain—Adjournment under a motion or resolution that fixes the next time of meeting. Under the Constitution, neither house can adjourn for more than three days without the concurrence of the other. A session of Congress is not ended by adjournment to a day certain.

有限期休会 根据某一动议或决议案，规定下次会议日期的休会。据宪法规定，如无另一院同时休会，任何一院都不得休会三天以上。国会的一届会期不能因有限期休会而终止。

Amendment—A proposal of a member of Congress to alter the language, provisions or stipulations in a bill or in another amendment. It usually is printed, debated, and voted upon in the same manner as a bill.

修正案 由某一国会议员提出的旨在修改一项议案或另一修正案的文字、条款或规定的建议。它通常要像一项议案那样予以印发、进行辩论并付诸表决。

Appeal — A member's challenge of a ruling or decision made by the presiding officer of the chamber. In the Senate, the senator appeals to members of the chamber to override the decision. If carried by a majority vote, the appeal nullifies the chair's ruling. In the House, the decision of the Speaker traditionally has been final; seldom are there appeals to the members to reverse the Speaker's stand. To appeal a ruling would be considered an attack on the Speaker.

请求 一名议员对议院的主席所作裁决和决定提出的挑战。在参院，参议员可请求该院的议员推翻主席所作的决定。此项请求如经多数票通过，则主席所作裁决归于无效。在众院，议长的决定在传统上被视为是不可更改的；很少有人请求众议员否定议长的立场。如对裁决提出请求，会被视为对议长的攻击。

Appropriations Bill — Provides the actual monies approved by authorization bills, but not necessarily the full amount permissible under the authorization measure. By congressional custom, an appropriations bill originates in the House, and normally it is not considered by the full House or

Senate until the related authorization measure is enacted. Under the 1974 Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act, general appropriations bills are supposed to be enacted by the seventh day after Labor Day before the start of the fiscal year to which they apply, but in recent years this deadline rarely has been met. In addition to general appropriations bill, there are two specialized types. (See Backdoor Spending, Supplemental Appropriations Bill.)

拨款议案 根据授权法案所实际拨给的款项，但并不一定拨给授权法案所准许的全部款项。根据国会的惯例，拨款议案由众院首先提出，但通常要在有关的授权法案成立之后，才由众院或参院的全体会议加以审议。根据1974年《国会预算和扣押控制法》，一般性拨款议案应在劳动节（九月的第一个星期一为美国的劳动节——译注）后的第七天，即在要使用拨款的财政年度（请参见下述有关术语——译注）开始之前，予以通过。但近年来很少依照这一最后期限如期做到。除一般性拨款议案外，还有两种特别拨款议案（请参阅“后门开支”及“补充拨款议案”）。

Authorization— Basic, Substantive legislation that establishes or continues the legal operation of a federal program or agency, either indefinitely or for a specific period of time, or which sanctions a particular type of obligation or expenditure. An authorization normally is a prerequisite for an appropriation or other kind of budget authority. An authorization may limit the amount of budget authority to be provided or may authorize the appropriation of “such sums as may be necessary.” (See Contract Authorization.)

授权 一种根本性和实质性的立法，它使联邦的某一计划或机构的合法的工作得以建立，并无限期地或在一定时期内得以继续进行下去，或者它准许承担某一特定形式的义务或开支。一般说来，授权对某项拨款或其他种类的预算授权是个先决条件。一项授权可对预算授权的拨付数额加以限制或授权拨付“必要的数额”（请参阅“合同授权”）。

Backdoor Spending— Spending authority provided in legislation outside the normal appropriations process. The most common forms of backdoor spending are borrowing authority, contract authority and entitlements. In some cases, such as