

SPECIAL SESSIONS OF THE SENATE

From 1789 to 1933 presidential and congressional terms began on March 4, although the Congress generally did not meet until the first Monday in December. When a new President was to take office, his predecessor would call the Senate into special session to confirm the nominations for the Cabinet and other significant posts. Special sessions also were convened to consider the ratification of treaties. Incumbent presidents also called special sessions from time to time to allow Senators to consider vacancies and other executive business. Special sessions are called by presidential proclamation.

[Except as noted below, all special sessions were convened to consider executive nominations.]

Congress	Year	Date of beginning	Date of adjournment
2d	1791	Friday, March 4	Friday, March 4.
3d	1793	Monday, March 4	Monday, March 4.
4th	1795	Monday, June 8 ¹	Friday, June 26.
5th	1797	Saturday, March 4	Saturday, March 4.
	1798	Tuesday, July 17	Thursday, July 19.
7th	1801	Wednesday, March 4	Thursday, March 5.
11th	1809	Saturday, March 4	Tuesday, March 7.
15th	1817	Monday, March 4	Wednesday, March 6.
19th	1825	Friday, March 4	Wednesday, March 9.
21st	1829	Wednesday, March 4	Tuesday, March 17.
25th	1837	Saturday, March 4	Friday, March 10.
27th	1841	Thursday, March 4	Monday, March 15.
29th	1845	Tuesday, March 4	Thursday, March 20.
31st	1849	Monday, March 5	Friday, March 23.
32d	1851	Tuesday, March 4	Thursday, March 13.
33d	1853	Friday, March 4	Monday, April 11.
35th	1857	Wednesday, March 4	Saturday, March 14.
	1858	Tuesday, June 15	Wednesday, June 16.
36th	1859	Friday, March 4	Thursday, March 10.
	1860	Tuesday, June 26 ²	Thursday, June 28.
37th	1861	Monday, March 4	Thursday, March 28.
38th	1863	Wednesday, March 4	Saturday, March 14.
39th	1865	Saturday, March 4	Saturday, March 11.
40th	1867	Monday, April 1	Saturday, April 20.
41st	1869	Monday, April 12	Thursday, April 22.
42d	1871	Wednesday, May 10 ³	Saturday, May 27.
43d	1873	Tuesday, March 4	Wednesday, March 26.
44th	1875	Friday, March 5	Wednesday, March 24.
45th	1877	Monday, March 5	Saturday, March 17.
47th	1881	Friday, March 4	Friday, May 20.
	1881	Monday, October 10	Saturday, October 29.
49th	1885	Wednesday, March 4	Thursday, April 2.
51st	1889	Monday, March 4	Tuesday, April 2.
53d	1893	Saturday, March 4	Friday, April 15.
55th	1897	Thursday, March 4	Wednesday, March 10.
57th	1901	Monday, March 4	Saturday, March 9.
58th	1903	Thursday, March 5	Thursday, March 19.
59th	1905	Saturday, March 4	Saturday, March 18.
61st	1909	Thursday, March 4	Saturday, March 6.
63d	1913	Tuesday, March 4	Monday, March 17.
65th	1917	Monday, March 5	Friday, March 16.
67th	1921	Friday, March 4	Tuesday, March 15.
69th	1925	Wednesday, March 4	Wednesday, March 18.
71st	1929	Monday, March 4	Tuesday, March 5.
	1930	Monday, July 7 ⁴	Monday, July 21.
73d	1933	Saturday, March 4	Monday, March 6.

¹ To consider the Jay Treaty. ² To consider treaties. ³ To consider the Washington Treaty. ⁴ To consider the Naval Arms Treaty.