Chapter 5 - The Organization of Congress

Congressional Membership - Section 1

Introduction
• The Founders did not intend to make Congress a privileged group.
• They did intend to make the legislative branch the most powerful of the three branches.
• Congress is described in ______________________________.
• _____________________ said that Congress is “the First Branch of Government.”
• The United States Congress is a __________________ legislature consisting of the
  __________________ and the ________________________.
• Congress formulates national policies ranging from health care to tax changes.

Congressional Sessions
1 session + 1 session = 1 term
• Each term of Congress begins on ________________________ of odd-numbered years and lasts for two years.
• The ________________ Congress began this year. (Jan. 3, 2011)
• Each ____________ of Congress is divided into two one year _____________________ or meetings.
• Each one year __________ includes breaks for holidays and vacation.
• Congress remains in session until its members vote to adjourn.
• Neither chamber may adjourn for more than __________ days without the approval of the other chamber.
• The __________________________ may call Congress back into special session if the Congress is adjourned.

The House of Representatives
• Larger of the two chambers
  • __________ members apportioned based on population
  • Each state is entitled to at least one seat in the House, no matter how small

The Senate
• Smaller of the two chambers
  • __________ total members
  • _____ per state
  • Based on _________________ representation

Qualifications

House of Representatives
• Representatives must be _____ years old
• Representatives must be citizens of the United States for at least _____ years
• Representatives must also be legal residents of the state that elects them

Traditionally, they also live in the district they represent.

Senate
• Senators must be _____ years old
• Senators must be citizens of the United States for at least _____ years
• Senators must also ____________________

All voters of each state elect senators at-large, or statewide.
Terms of Office

House of Representatives
• Elected for _____ year terms
• Elections are held in ___________________________ of even-numbered years – 2008, 2010, 2012
• Term begins on ______________ following November election
• All _______ members run for re-election every _______ years
• More than _____ of Representatives are elected again (incumbents) providing great continuity
• A ____________ election is held if a Representative dies or resigns in the first session of the term

Senate
• Elected for _____ year terms
• Elections are held in ___________________________ of even-numbered years – 2008, 2010, 2012
• Term begins on ______________ following November election
• Only __________________ of the senate is up for re-election every _______ years.
• Most senators are re-elected providing for great continuity
• If a senator dies or resigns before the end of the term the state legislature may authorize the ______________ to appoint someone to fill the vacancy until the next election or may call for a special election.

Apportionment
• The Constitution requires that all Americans be counted every _____ years by a _______ to determine population for reapportionment in the House of Representatives. The 2010 Census was just conducted last year.
• __________________________ is the allocation of congressional seats among the states.
• The House has grown from _____ members in 1790 to _____ in 1910 (the statutory limit since 1929).
• Each state must have one representative; the remaining 385 are divided ‘equally’ based on population
• On average, each representative has __________________________ people in his/her district today (versus 30,000 from 1790 to 1900)
• States may lose or gain representatives according to their_____________________ growth.
• No state will ever lose all of its representatives.
• The ___________________________________ of 1929 set the permanent number of representatives at 435.

Congressional Redistricting
• After each state finds out their reapportioned representation for the next 10-year period, each state legislature sets up congressional________________—— one for each representative.
• Representatives are elected from these congressional districts.
• This process of setting up new district lines is called______________________________.
• States have sometimes abused this redistricting power by setting up districts with unequal populations and by _____________________________.
State Representation
Which state has the most Representatives in Congress?

(1) __________________________________________(53 Members)
(2) ______________________________________________ (31)
(3) ______________________________________________ (29)
(4) ______________________________________________ (25)
(5) ______________________________________________ (19)
(6) ______________________________________________ (19)
(7) ______________________________________________ (18)
(8) ______________________________________________ (15)
(9) ______________________________________________ (13)
(10) ______________________________________________ (13)
(11) ______________________________________________ (13)
(12) _____________________________________________(10)

Which has the least?

Seven states have only one Representative, due to their low population. These Members represent their entire state and are formally known as "at-large" Members:
(1)
(2)
(3)
(4)
(5)
(6)
(7)

Redistricting Cases
• ______________ occurs when the political party controlling the state government draws a district’s boundaries to gain an advantage in elections.
• ______________ a district means to draw the lines so that the district to include as many of the opposing party’s voters as possible. This makes the other districts safe for the majority party.
• __________________ is dividing opponents voters into other districts to weaken the opponent’s voter base.

Gerrymandering and Minority/Majority Districts
• The issue of ______________ has not been resolved
• When a state’s district shape has been altered by the majority party to maximize its power.
• Minority/Majority districts have been approved by the US Supreme Court under a mandate by the ______________ of 1965.

Salary
• The Senate and the House set their own salaries.
• In 1789 salaries were $6.00 per day for each house.
• The ______ Amendment prohibiting a sitting Congress from giving themselves a pay raise was originally proposed by James Madison in 1789, but not ratified until ________________________.
• Salary for both chambers is _____________.
Congressional Leaders Salaries

• Congress: Leadership Members' Salary (112th Congress)
  Leaders of the House and Senate are paid a higher salary than rank-and-file members.

• Senate Leadership
  Majority Leader - $_________
  Minority Leader - $_________

• House Leadership
  Speaker of the House - $_________
  Majority Leader - $193,400
  Minority Leader - $193,400

Pay, Perks, and Privileges

Privileges
• Free from ___________ in all cases except treason, felony or breach of the peace when they are attending Congress or on their way to and from Congress.
• Cannot be sued for anything they say on the floor of Congress.
• Senate and House may judge a member’s qualifications and decide to seat them.
• A majority vote by each house to not seat a member is called ______________.
• Each chamber can punish its members for disorderly behavior by a majority vote and expel a member by a two-thirds vote. (treason and accepting bribes)
  _____________ is a vote of disapproval of a member’s actions.

Members of Congress

• Congress has ______ voting members
  - 100 _______________
  - 435 _______________

• 6 non-voting delegates in the House
  One non- voting resident commissioner from _______________

• These non-voting members attend sessions, introduce bills, speak in debates and vote in ________________.

Characteristics

• Nearly _______ of members are ________________.
• Large numbers come from business, banking, and education.
• Typically have been white, middle-aged men
• Average age is over ________.
• Slowly Congress has begun to reflect the racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of the general population.

Ethnic Make-up of 112th Congress

• African-American Members: _____ in House; ____ in Senate.
• Hispanic-American Members: _____ in House; _____ in Senate
• Asian-American/Pacific Islander/Other Members: _____ in House; _____ in Senate
• Native American Members: _____ in House; ___ in Senate
Women in the 112th Congress

• In the House there are _____ female Representatives. The Senate has _____ females.
• The first woman elected to serve in Congress was Representative ______________________, a Republican from Montana. She served from 1917 to 1919 and again from 1941 to 1943.

Reelection to Congress
• Membership in Congress has changed very slowly because most officeholders get re-elected.
• Senators and Representatives who get reelected while in office are called _________________.
• Incumbents are more successful because it is easier for them to raise money, they have ________________, their district is drawn in their favor, they are in a position to solve constituent problems and voters think that they represent their views better than someone new.

United States Congress

Key Differences

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<th>House</th>
<th>Senate</th>
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<td>Initiate revenue bills</td>
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<td>2-year term</td>
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<td>435</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Formal</td>
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<td>Specialists</td>
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<td>Tax policy</td>
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<td>advise and consent</td>
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<td>6-year term</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<td>Relaxed</td>
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<td>Generalists</td>
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<td>Foreign policy</td>
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Let’s Review

**Senate**

- ____ years old
- Resident of the ____ being represented
- Citizen for ___ years
- ______ members/ ____ per state
- May add new members
- Leader is the _____________ (Vice President)
- Term of office is ___ years
- ____ (33 or 34) are up for election every ____ years
- Session is 1 year

**House**

- ____ years old
- Resident of the ______ being represented
- Citizen for ___ years
- ____ members/ proportioned by ________ based on the ______
- Number is set at ______
- Leader is the _____________
- Term of office is__ years
- All _____ are up for election every ____ years
- _____________ is 1 year