

The Legislative Branch

Congress is the Legislative Branch, and it has many roles. For example, they get to make laws, declare war, and raise and provide public money. Congress is also split into two chambers, the Senate and House of Representatives. Congress also has its limits though. It can't suspend the habeas corpus, favor one state over another, or issue titles of nobility (Duke, Marquess, Baron, etc.). Those are just a few of the roles Congress fills to make the United States of America a successful nation.

In the House of Representatives, there are 435 total voting members and each voting member can serve a two-year term. All fifty states get representatives based on their population. Every state is split into a certain number of sections called Districts. There are five districts in Connecticut and we live in district two. Our representative is Joe Courtney.

Representatives must be at least 25 years of age, have been a U.S. citizen for at least seven years, and must live in the current state they represent. The leader of The House is called the Speaker. The speaker is currently Kevin McCarthy who got elected on January 7th, 2023. For these reasons, our House of Representatives is very important to the United States of America.

In the Senate, each state has two elected Senators, and in total there are 100 members. The senators are elected every 6 years, and they can serve more than one term. To become a senator you must be at least 30 years of age and you must be a U.S citizen for at least 9 years or more. If you become a senator you represent the state that you live in. For Connecticut, Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy are our current elected senators. The Senate has the power to conduct impeachment trials, essentially serving as the jury and judges.

Different committees serve in both the House and the Senate. These groups of representatives and senators focus on different topics and review the details of bills before they are voted on. In total there are 48 standing committees. Some examples include the Committees on Finance, Committees on Education, and Committees on Natural Resources.

Signed,

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