



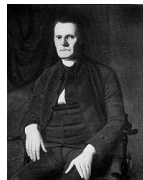
The Legislative Branch

Legislative Branch: Inception

- The Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan
- The “Great Compromise”
 - Bicameral legislature: the House of Representatives and the Senate
 - House representation based on population
 - Senate—each state allowed two votes
 - Length of terms for representatives, senators



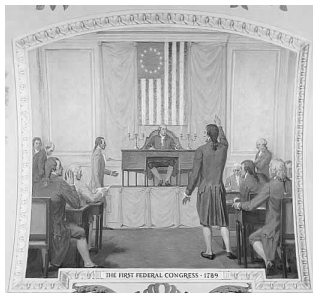
James Madison



Roger Sherman

The First Congress

The first Congress met in New York City in 1789



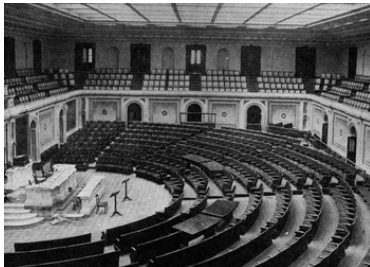
The House of Representatives

- Seats are distributed based on population
- Reapportionment takes place every ten years
- Gerrymandering



The district created by members of Governor Elbridge Gerry's party closely resembled a salamander—hence the term “gerrymander”

Qualifications for House Membership



The hall of the House of Representatives

- Must be at least 25 years old
- Must live in the state he or she represents
- Must have been a U.S. citizen for at least seven years

House Officers

- Speaker of the House
- Majority Floor Leader
- Majority Whip
- Minority Floor Leader
- Minority Whip



President Carter meets with House Speaker Tip O'Neill, 1978

House Committees

- Standing committees: permanent committees that debate proposed bills
- Select committees: temporary panels created to address a specific issue or situation
- Committee chairmen

Agriculture	International Relations
Appropriation	The Judiciary
Armed Services	Resources
The Budget	Rules
Education and the Work Force	Science
Energy and Commerce	Small Business
Financial Services	Standards of Official Conduct
Government Reform	Transportation and Infrastructure
Homeland Security	Veterans' Affairs
House Administration	Ways and Means

The Senate



The Senate: Facts



The Senate in 1939

- A “continuous body”
- One-third of the Senate comes up for reelection every two years
- Senators can run for reelection as often as they desire

Qualifications for Senate Membership

- Must be at least 30 years old
- Must live in the state he or she represents
- Must have been a U.S. citizen for at least nine years



The chamber of the U.S. Senate

Senate Officers

- President of the Senate
- President Pro Tempore
- Majority Floor Leader
- Majority Whip
- Minority Floor Leader
- Minority Whip



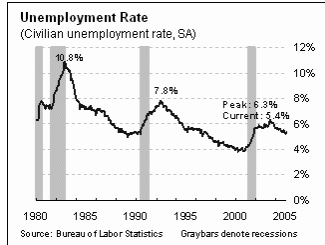
James Hamilton Lewis became the first Senate Party Whip in 1913

Senate Committees

Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry	Finance
Appropriations	Foreign Relations
Armed Services	Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs	Homeland Security and Government Affairs
Budget	Judiciary
Committee, Science and Transportation	Rules and Administration
Energy and Natural Resources	Small Businesses and Entrepreneurship
Environment and Public Works	Veteran Affairs

Joint Committees and Conference Committees

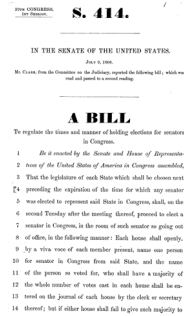
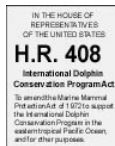
- **Joint committees:** Deal with issues of concern to both houses of Congress
- **Conference committees:** Created to reach a compromise on the wording of a bill that has passed both the House and the Senate



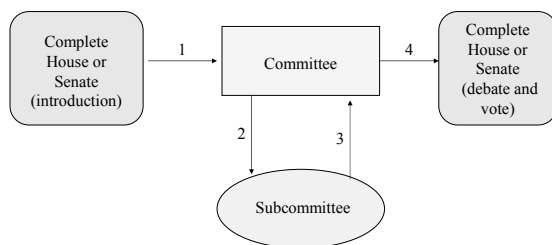
Joint committees, such as the Joint Committee on Economics, research issues that affect both houses, such as unemployment

Congressional Bills

Bills are named according to whether they originated in the House (HR), the Senate (SR), or the White House (WHR). They then receive a number.



How a Bill Becomes a Law: Introduction to Committee



How a Bill Becomes a Law: Committee to Floor Debate

- Calendar
- Rules Committee
- Debate
 - House vs. Senate
 - Filibusters
 - cloture



The late Strom Thurmond holds the record for the longest filibuster in Senate history—24 hours and 18 minutes against the Civil Rights Act of 1957

How a Bill Becomes a Law: Voting



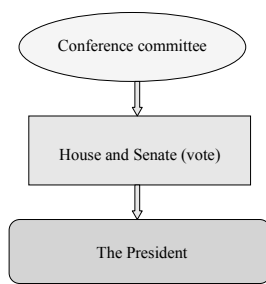
- Quorum

Types of votes

- Voice vote
- Standing vote
- Roll-call vote
- Electronic voting (House only)

How a Bill Becomes a Law: From Passage to the President

- Conference committee
- House and Senate vote again
 1. Changes cannot be made
 2. Majority vote needed for passage
- Sent to President



How a Bill Becomes a Law: The President



President George W. Bush signs a law on corporate responsibility

The President's Options

- Sign it
- Veto it
- Pocket veto
- Ignore it
- Overriding a veto

Expressed Powers of Congress

- Power to tax
- Power to borrow money
- Commerce power
- Currency power
- Bankruptcy power
- War powers



Other Expressed Powers

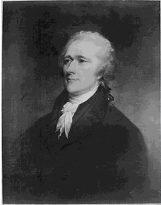
- Naturalization
- Postal power
- Copyright and patent power
- Weights and measures power
- Territorial power
- Judicial power



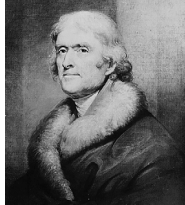
Candidates for naturalization, early 1900s

Implied Powers

- Article I: “necessary and proper”
- The “Elastic Clause”
- Strict vs. loose interpretation
- Hamilton vs. Jefferson



Alexander Hamilton



Thomas Jefferson

Non-Legislative Powers

- Investigatory Power
- Electoral Power
- Executive Powers
- Impeachment Power



A depiction of the impeachment trial of
Andrew Johnson
