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# ***Article I–Legislative Department***

## ***Section I. Congress***

1) All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

## ***Section II. House of Representatives***

1) The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several States, and the electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State Legislature.

2) No person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

3) Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included in this Union, according to their respective numbers. The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of 10 years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each State shall have at least one Representative.

4) When vacancies happen in the representation from any State, the Executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

5) The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other officers; and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

## ***Section I. Congress***

1) Congress will have all the lawmaking powers of the United States' national government. The Congress will have a Senate and a House of Representatives.

## ***Section II. House of Representatives***

1) Each state will elect its members to the House of Representatives every two years. Each state's electors must meet the same requirements for election as the requirements for members of the state's house of representatives.

2) Representatives must be at least 25 years old, a citizen of the United States for at least seven years and an inhabitant of the state from which he or she was elected.

3) The number of representatives and the amount of direct taxes for each state will be decided by the size of the population of each state. The actual count of the population (census) will begin within three years of the first meeting of Congress. Future census counts will be taken every 10 years and done as the law says. Each state will have one representative for every 30,000 people. Every state will have at least one representative.

4) If a senator or representative dies or is removed from office during the term, the governor of the state calls for an election to fill the office left open.

5) The House of Representatives chooses its own Speaker and other officers. Only the House has the power to impeach (bring charges against) senators, representatives, the President or a Supreme Court justice.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# *The Two Houses of Congress*

1. Fill in the chart below about representatives' and senators' terms in office and the qualifications required to be elected to office.

Office	Term in Office	Age Qualification	Citizenship Qualification	Residence Qualification
Representative				
Senator				

2. Below are several things the houses of Congress can do. Decide which house(s) can do these things and choose one of the following answers to write in the blank beside the action:

a. House of Representatives only   b. Senate only   c. both houses   d. neither house

- \_\_\_\_\_ a. The state legislature decides when, where and how the elections for this house of Congress will be held.
- \_\_\_\_\_ b. This house can bring impeachment charges against federal office holders.
- \_\_\_\_\_ c. This house can hold trials for office holders who have been impeached.
- \_\_\_\_\_ d. Only one-third of the members of this house are up for election during any national election year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ e. This house elects a Speaker who runs its meetings.
- \_\_\_\_\_ f. This house can punish its own members for misbehavior.
- \_\_\_\_\_ g. No member of this house can be arrested for any crime except treason, felony or breach of the peace.
- \_\_\_\_\_ h. The number of people elected by a state to this house is based on the size of the state's population.
- \_\_\_\_\_ i. This house must keep a journal that tells what has happened in the house.
- \_\_\_\_\_ j. This house cannot adjourn (leave) without the consent of the other house.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Methods of Passing LAWS Outline

On the left is the outline form to use with this exercise. On the right are phrases that explain the steps a bill must go through to become a law. All of the steps will fit exactly into the outline. Begin with the main headings of the outline and fill in the details afterwards. Refer to the information on pages 10-11 to help with the outline.

- I. A bill is introduced into one of the houses. Congress votes to override President's veto.
  - A. Bill is read by the Clerk of the House. President keeps the bill for 10 days without signing it.
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_ Bill goes to other house to be voted on.
  - C. \_\_\_\_\_ Bill goes to conference committee.
  - D. \_\_\_\_\_ First house passes the bill.
  - E. \_\_\_\_\_ President signs the bill into law.
- II. \_\_\_\_\_ House debates the bill.
  - A. \_\_\_\_\_ President vetoes the bill.
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_ Bill is sent to committee.
- III. \_\_\_\_\_ Bill is sent to President to sign.
  - A. \_\_\_\_\_ Second house passes the bill.
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_ Pocket veto occurs.
  - C. \_\_\_\_\_ Committee sends bill to whole house.
  - D. \_\_\_\_\_ President returns the vetoed bill to Congress.
- IV. \_\_\_\_\_ Congress cannot get two-thirds vote to override veto.
  - A. \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_

