

Congress: Our Legislative Branch

1. Structure

a. House of Representatives

i. 435 Members

1. # per state based on population

ii. 2 year terms

iii. Lower House

iv. Closer to the People

v. Qualifications

1. 25 or older

2. 7 years citizenship

3. Live where you represent

b. Senate

i. 100 Members

1. 2 per state

ii. Qualifications

1. 30 or older

2. 9 years citizenship

3. Live where you represent

iii. 6 year terms

iv. Upper House

2. Checks on Congress

a. Both Houses must agree to pass a law

b. President must sign bills

c. Judicial Review can invalidate laws

d. May impeach

**e. Senate confirms treaties/
presidential appointments**

3. Enumerated Powers

a. Tax

b. Borrow

c. Coin money

d. Regulate interstate commerce

e. Declare war

f. Establish patents & copyrights

g. Establish lower federal courts

h. Raise and support armies

i. Maintain navy

