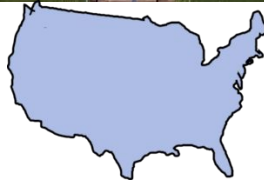


Civics 101: A Primer to Federal, Maryland, and Howard County Government



What are we going to learn today?

1. Understand the federal, state, and county structures of government
2. Understand the legislative process at each level
3. Learn when to contact elected representatives



The Federal System

fed·er·al·ism

A system of government combining a central government with regional governments

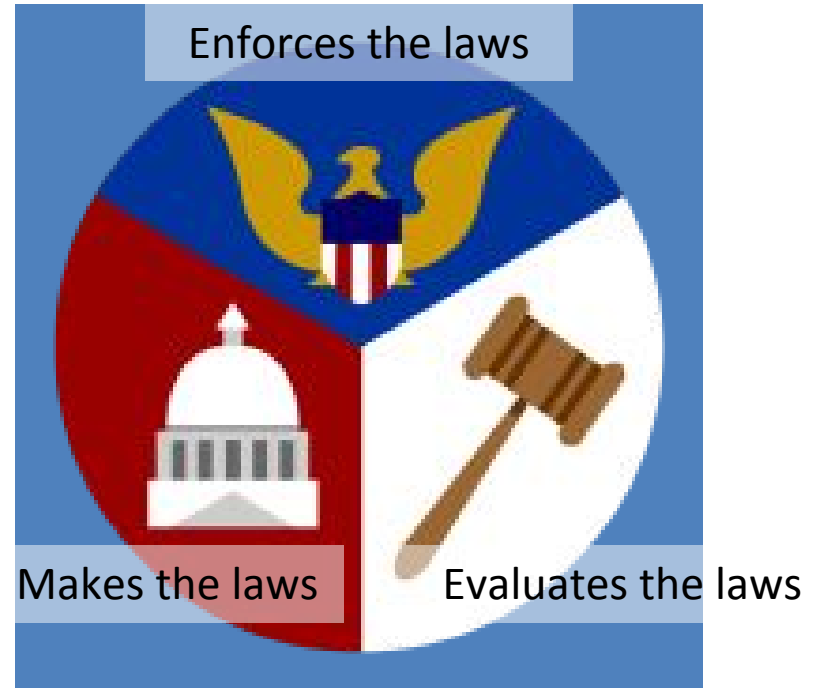


The Federal System

Three Branches of Government:

- I. Legislative (Congress)
- II. Executive (President)
- III. Judicial (Supreme Court)

Co-equal branches that can check each other's power



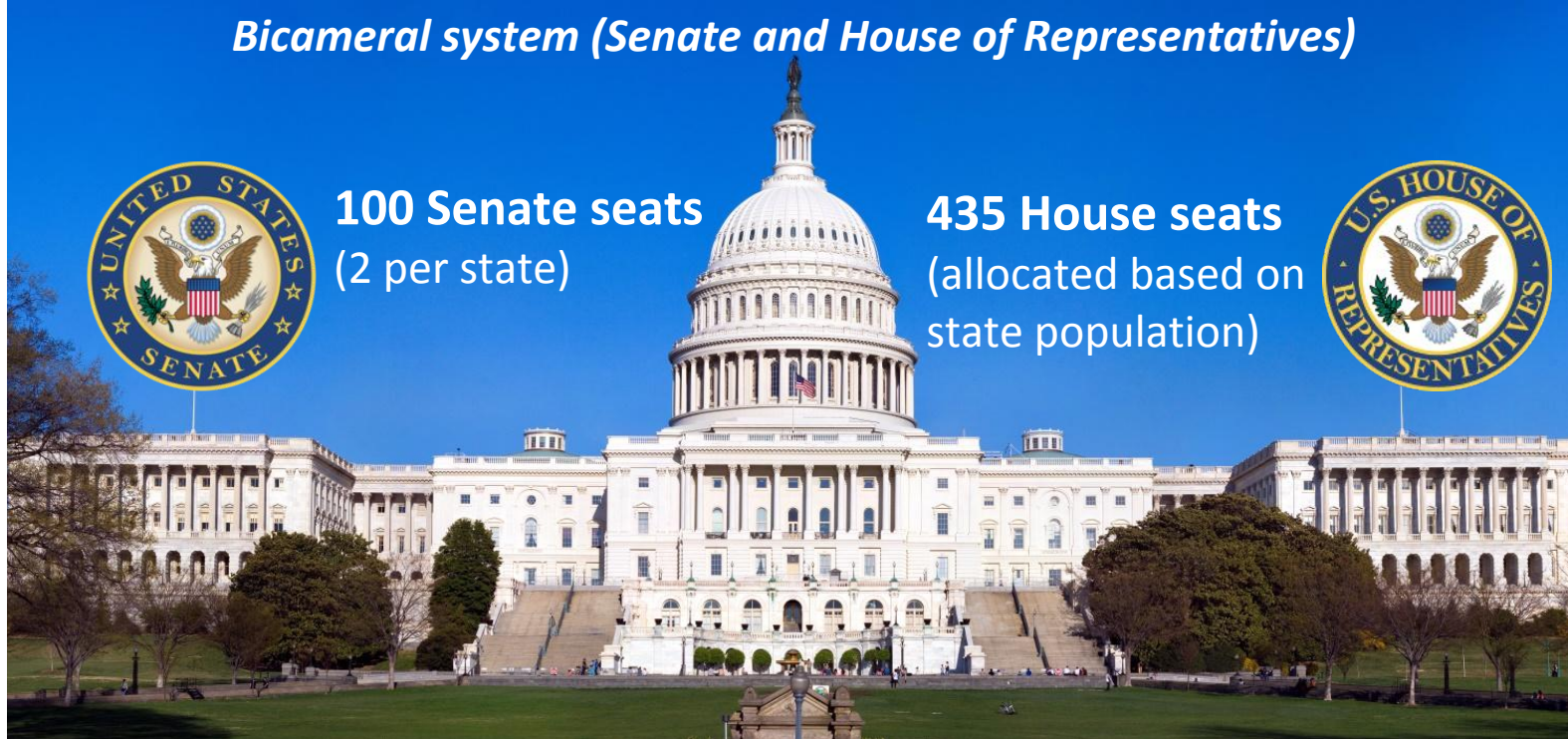
United States Congress

Bicameral system (Senate and House of Representatives)

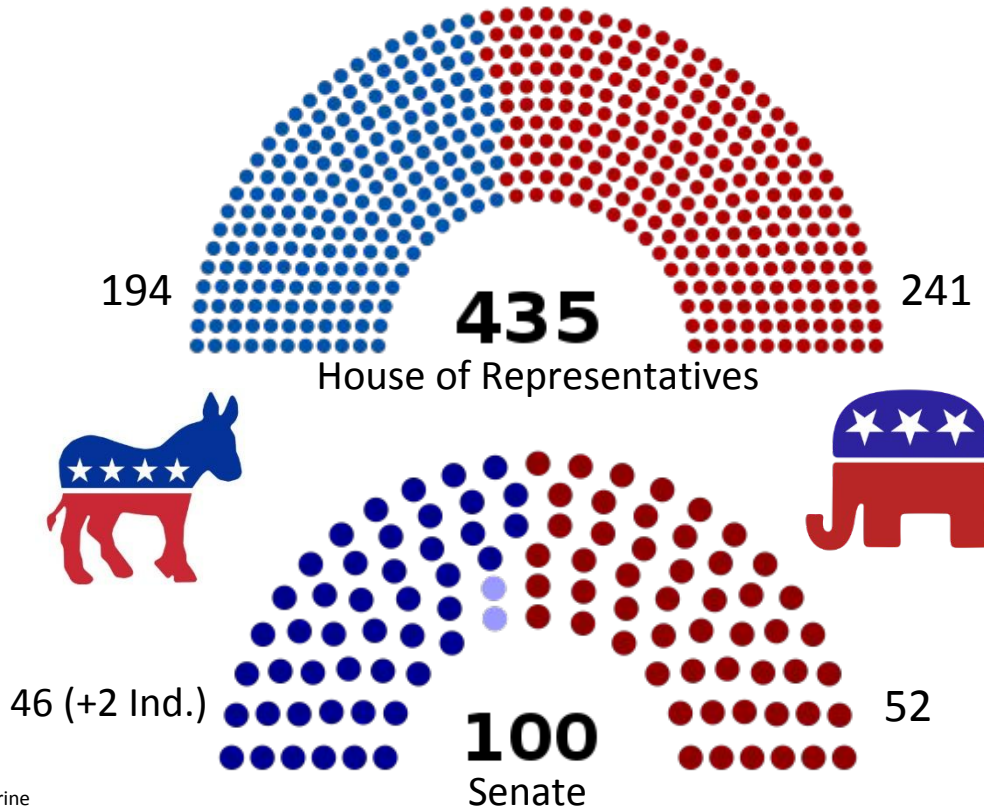


100 Senate seats
(2 per state)

435 House seats
(allocated based on
state population)



United States Congress



Every 2 years:

All House seats are up for reelection

1/3 of Senate seats are up for reelection

In 2018:

25 Democratic Senate seats up for reelection versus only

9 Republican Senate seats

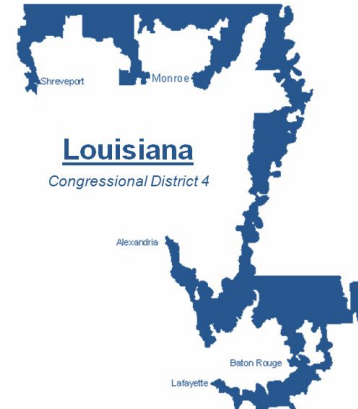
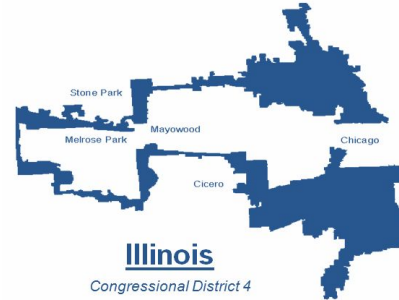
U.S. Congressional Districts

Did you know?

District lines are redrawn every 10 years after the national Census.

State legislatures draw the lines.

There are currently **25 states** with both Republican-led state legislatures and governors, vs. only **5 states** with both Democrat-led state legislatures and governors.



How a Bill Becomes a Law



U.S. Congressional Committees

Senate Standing Committees

- Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
- Appropriations
- Armed Services
- Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
- Budget
- Commerce, Science, and Transportation
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Environment and Public Works
- Finance
- Foreign Relations

Joint Committees

- Joint Committee on Printing
- Joint Committee on Taxation
- Joint Committee on the Library
- Joint Economic Committee

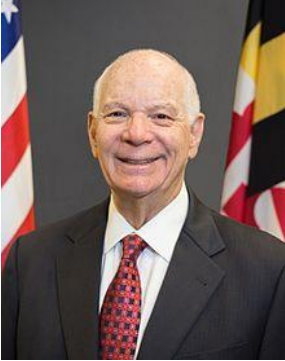


House Standing Committees

- Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
- Intelligence
- Judiciary
- Appropriations
- Rules and Administration
- Small Business and Entrepreneurship
- Budget
- Veterans' Affairs
- Education and the Workforce
- Energy and Commerce
- Ethics
- Financial Services



U.S. Congressional Committees



Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD)

- Foreign Relations
- Environment and Public Works
- Finance
- Small Business and Entrepreneurship
- Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (U.S. Helsinki Commission)



Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)

- Appropriations
- Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
- Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
- Budget

U.S. Congressional Committees



**Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger
(D-MD-2)**

- Appropriations



**Rep. John Sarbanes
(D-MD-3)**

- Energy and Commerce
- Oversight and Government Reform



**Rep. Elijah Cummings
(D-MD-7)**

- Oversight and Government Reform
- Transportation and Infrastructure

Maryland Legislature Overview

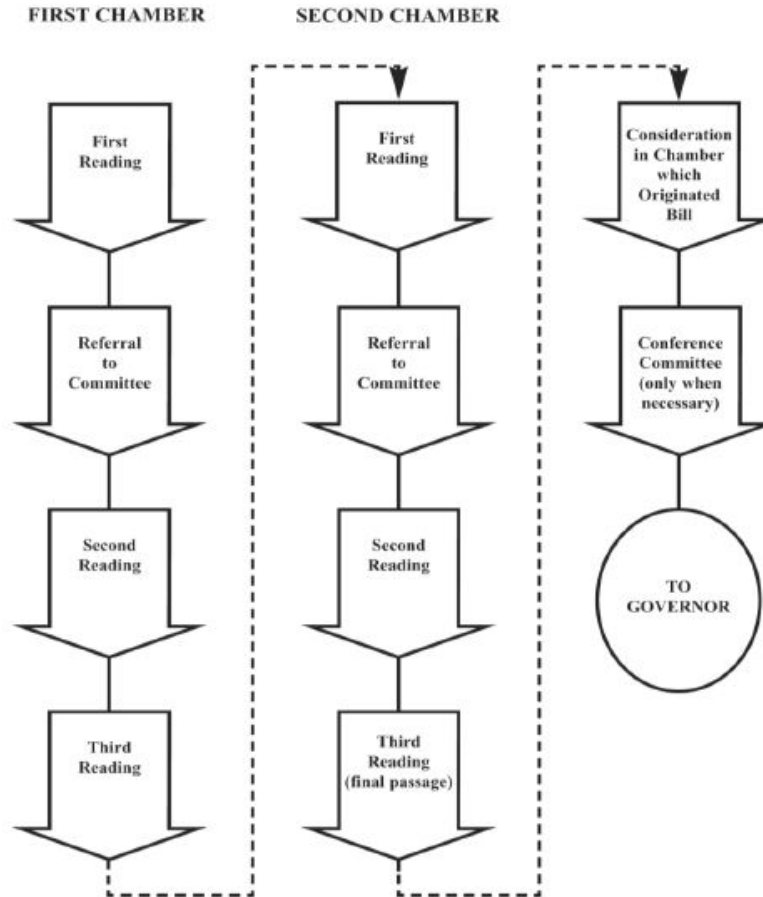
- Maryland has a part-time legislature that meets for 90 days each year
 - In a typical session lawmakers consider 2,000+ bills and the state budget
- There are 47 state senators and 141 delegates
- Each legislative district is represented by one senator and three delegates
 - Some are split into sub-districts (i.e. District 9A and 9B)



Committee List

Senate Standing	House Standing	Senate Special	House Special	Senate Select	House Delegation	Statutory	Joint	Special Joint	Other
Senate Standing		Chair		Vice Chair		Contact			
Budget and Taxation		Kasemeyer, Edward J.		Madaleno, Richard S., Jr.		→			
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs		Conway, Joan Carter		Pinsky, Paul G.		→			
Executive Nominations		Ferguson, Bill		Kelley, Delores G.		→			
Finance		Middleton, Thomas M.		Astle, John C.		→			
Judicial Proceedings		Zirkin, Bobby A.		Kelley, Delores G.		→			
Rules		Klausmeier, Katherine		DeGrange, James E., Sr.		→			
House Standing		Chair		Vice Chair		Contact			
Appropriations		McIntosh, Maggie		Gaines, Tawanna P.		→			
Economic Matters		Davis, Dereck E.		Jameson, Sally		→			
Environment and Transportation		Barve, Kumar P.		Stein, Dana		→			
Health and Government Operations		Pendergrass, Shane E.		Bromwell, Eric M.		→			
Rules and Executive Nominations		Healey, Anne		Walker, Jay		→			
Judiciary		Vallario, Joseph F., Jr.		Dumais, Kathleen M.		→			
Ways and Means		Kaiser, Anne R.		Turner, Frank S.		→			

The Legislative Process



Howard County State Senators



Sen. Gail Bates (R-Dist. 9)

- Education, Health and Environmental Affairs



Sen. Ed Kasemeyer (D-Dist. 12)

- Chairman, Budget and Taxation Committee



Sen. Guy Guzzone (D-Dist. 13)

- Budget and Taxation Committee



Howard County State Delegates

District 9A

Del. Trent Kittleman (R)

- Judiciary

Del. Warren Miller (R)

- Economic Matters

District 9B

Robert Flanagan (R)

- Environment and Transportation

District 12

Del. Eric Ebersole (D)

- Ways and Means

Del. Terri Hill (D)

- Health and Government Operations

Del. Clarence Lam (D)

- Appropriations

District 13

Del. Vanessa Atterbeary (D)

- Judiciary
- Deputy Majority Whip

Del. Shane Pendergrass (D)

- Chair, Health and Government Operations

Del. Frank Turner (D)

- Vice Chair, Ways and Means

Howard County Organization

Howard County Executive



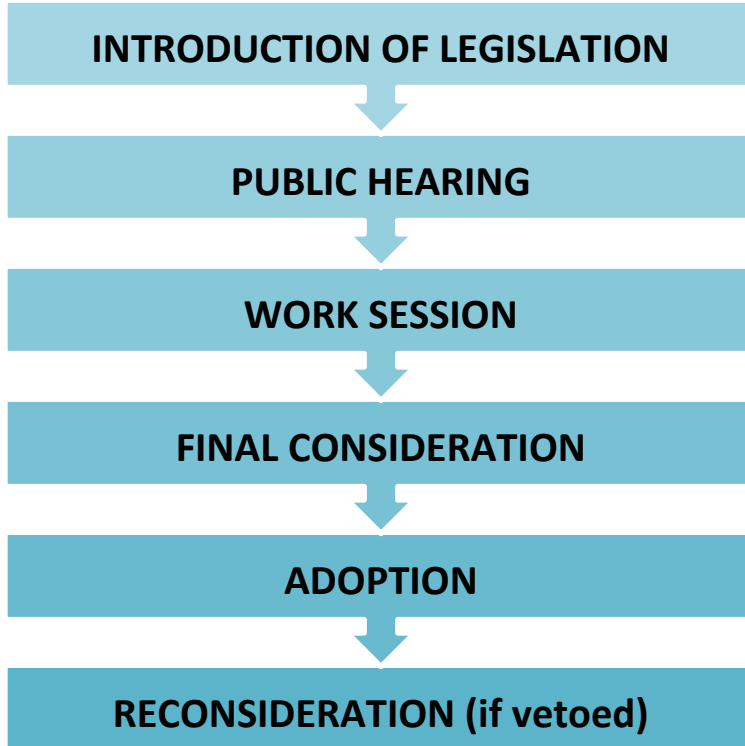
Allan Kittleman (R)

Howard County Council (5 seats)



L-R: Gregory Fox (R); Mary Kay Sigaty (D); Calvin B. Ball (D); Jennifer R. Terrasa (D); Jonathan S. Weinstein (D)

Howard County Legislative Process



Howard County follows a monthly schedule.

1st Monday - New legislation is introduced; legislation from prior month is given final consideration

3rd Monday - Public hearing on legislation introduced that month (opportunity to testify)

4th Monday - Legislative work session, if needed

Note: If Monday falls on a holiday, Council meetings are held on Tuesday or the first day after the Holiday(s). The Council is in recess in August. The Council does not meet the month of November during a local election year.

Before you engage with elected officials



Ask yourself:

- Am I a constituent?
- Am I targeting the right level and branch of government?
- Does my elected agree or disagree with my position?
- What is my elected able and not able to do?
- Is my issue and ask still relevant?

Don't:

- Waste their time and yours with asks that they cannot do anything about
- Attack an elected for a position they do not have
- Make a local ask of a federal elected or vice versa

