

# The Legislative Branch

## Guided Notes

### **Introductory Journal:**

In your opinion, how powerful is the legislative branch compared to the other two branches? If you could be in charge of any of the three branches, which would you choose and why? Explain your reasoning then discuss with a partner.

### **Overview:**

List the three branches of the American government:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

The Legislative branch is established in Article \_\_\_\_\_ of the Constitution.

Who is in charge of running the Legislative branch?

### **Congress:**

Congress is made up of a \_\_\_\_\_ legislature. This means that it consists of two separate branches or chambers.

These two chambers are known as:

- 1.
- 2.



Pause for thought...

What do you think are some advantages and disadvantages to having a bicameral (two house) legislature? Would it be better to have a unicameral (one house) legislature? Record your answers in the space below and then discuss with a partner.

List three powers that the Constitution grants to Congress:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

In your own words, define [legislation](#):

### **From Bill to Law (The Legislation Process)**

List four interesting things you learned from the Schoolhouse Rock video:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.



The Necessary and Proper Clause is also known as the \_\_\_\_\_ Clause.

Pause for thought...

Without an Elastic Clause, would Congress be able to adapt to changing times? What would the United States look like today if the Elastic Clause had never been put in place by the framers of the Constitution? Record your answer in the space below and then discuss with a partner.

**House of Representatives:**

The House of Representatives consists of \_\_\_\_\_ members while the Senate consists of \_\_\_\_\_ members.

The \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ presides over the House of Representatives.

List three powers that the Constitution grants the House of Representatives:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Senate:**

The \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ serves as the President of the Senate.

List three powers that the Constitution grants the Senate:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

