

## THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH:

# Two Chambers of Congress

### PART I

Use the information on page 1 to fill in the blanks.

1. States with large populations, like Texas, have more seats in the House of Representatives than less populated states, like Vermont, do.
2. Since each state is equally represented in the Senate, smaller states such as Rhode Island have the same number of representatives as larger states such as California.
3. The Senate has rules for debate that allow its 100 members to discuss a bill for hours. Sometimes members use this extended speaking time to try to delay a vote. This practice is called a filibuster.
4. The House of Representatives has 435 members. So, to allow more people an opportunity to talk, this chamber has time restrictions limiting the length of arguments in debate.
5. If representatives in the Senate are evenly split for and against a bill, the U.S. vice president will vote to break the tie.
6. The leader of the House of Representatives is called the Speaker and is chosen by the political party that has the majority of seats.
7. Members of the Senate represent an entire state, rather than a single district, so they must be knowledgeable about issues that impact anyone in the state.
8. The House of Representatives has shorter terms. This means elected officials need to pay close attention to public opinion in their districts so that they can convince people to re-elect them every two years.

### PART II

Research your representatives! Write their names below. **Answers will vary.**

State senators: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

District representative: \_\_\_\_\_

#### BONUS QUESTION:

Which chamber of Congress would you rather serve in and why? Do additional research to help you decide.