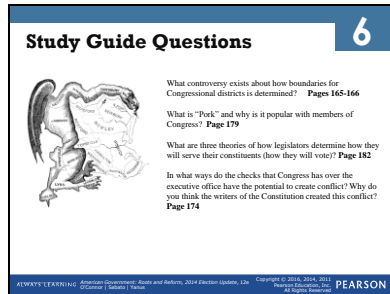


Slide 1



Slide 2



Study Guide Questions

What controversy exists about how boundaries for Congressional districts is determined? Pages 165-166

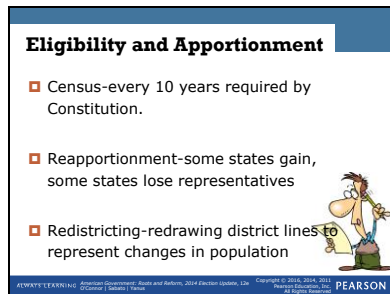
What is "Pork" and why is it popular with members of Congress? Page 179

What are three theories of how legislators determine how they will serve their constituents (how they will vote)? Page 182

In what ways do the checks that Congress has over the executive office have the potential to create conflict? Why do you think the writers of the Constitution created this conflict? Page 174

PEARSON

Slide 3



Eligibility and Apportionment

- Census-every 10 years required by Constitution.
- Reapportionment-some states gain, some states lose representatives
- Redistricting-redrawing district lines to represent changes in population

PEARSON

The Constitution requires that a census be taken every ten years to determine how many members each state will have in the House of Representatives.

When a state gains or loses congressional representation it is called reapportionment.

The census results in Congressional districts being re-drawn to represent changes in population. This is called redistricting.

While the U. S. Constitution gives power to the states to set up and conduct elections, the Supreme Court

has ruled that districts cannot be created that have unequal numbers or that are drawn for the purpose of discrimination.

Slide 4



Of the thousands who run for office, those who have the best chance belong to either the Democratic or Republican party. Election laws vary from state to state, and some states discriminate against independent party and minor-party candidates.

Raising money is crucial in an election, and incumbent members of Congress spend much of their free time on the phone or attending fundraisers.

Incumbents have a tremendous advantage; on average, 96% of incumbents win their bid for primary and general election success. As a rule, challengers simply don't have the name recognition, access to free media, insight on fundraising and advantageous district enjoyed by the incumbent.

Slide 5

TABLE 6.4 What are the advantages to incumbency?

TABLE 6.4 WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF INCUMBENCY?

Name recognition. Members' names have been on the ballot before, and voters may associate their names with programs or social services they have brought to the district.

Credit claiming. Members may claim to be responsible for federal money brought to the district.

Casework. Members and their staffs help constituents solve problems with the government, including navigating red tape and tracking down federal aid.

Franking privilege. Members may send mail or newsletters for free by using their signature in place of a stamp.

Access to media. Members and their staffs may have relationships with reporters and may find it easy to spin stories or give quotes.

Ease in fund-raising. Incumbents' high reelection rates make them a safe bet for individuals or groups wanting to give donations in exchange for access.

Experience in running a campaign. Members have already put together a campaign staff, made speeches, and come to understand constituent concerns.

Redistricting. In the House, a member's district may be drawn to enhance electability.

ALWAYS LEARNING American Government: Principles and Practice, 2014 Edition Update, 1st Edition © 2015, 2014, 2011 Pearson Education, Inc. PEARSON

Incumbents enjoy many advantages in running a campaign, including: name recognition, claiming credit for bills passed, claiming credit for helping constituents, access to media, free mailing (franking) of district-related materials and newsletters, experience in running a campaign, and fundraising.

Slide 6

Redistricting

- Follows census
 - State Legislatures redraw districts
- Often political in nature
 - Party in power controls the process
- Gerrymandering
 - Drawing a district to favor a party or candidate

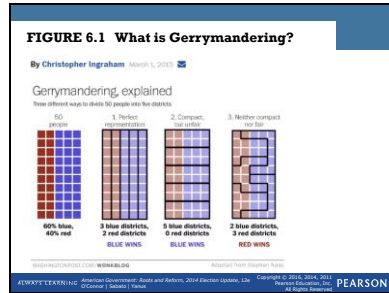


ALWAYS LEARNING American Government: Principles and Practice, 2014 Edition Update, 1st Edition © 2015, 2014, 2011 Pearson Education, Inc. PEARSON

Congressional districts are redrawn to reflect increases or decreases in seats allotted to states, as well as population shifts within a state. Redistricting can be a largely political process. In most states, the state legislature redraws the lines. The new districts could be drawn to help incumbents win re-election or to make it harder for incumbents if they are not a member of the party in power.

When the practice of redistricting is so influenced by politics that it produces a district with a strange shape, it is called gerrymandering. Such cases are often challenged in court. In recent years the Supreme Court has ruled that when redistricting the districts must be based on population and they must be contiguous (the boundaries must be able to be drawn with a single line). It has ruled that gerrymandering to dilute minority strength violates the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and that race can be considered when redistricting if it is not the "predominate" factor, and states may redistrict more frequently than every 10 years.

Slide 7



Two drawings—one a mocking cartoon, the other all too real—show the bizarre geographical contortions that result from gerrymandering. The term was coined by combining the last name of the Massachusetts governor first credited with politicizing the redistricting process, Elbridge Gerry, and the word "salamander," which looked like the oddly shaped district that Gerry created.

Slide 8



Slide 9

6.2 Responsibility for redistricting most often belongs to:

- a. Congress
- b. State legislatures
- c. Political parties
- d. Independent commissions

ALWAYS LEARNING American Government: Principles and Applications, 2014 Edition Update, 1st © 2014, 2015, 2011 Pearson Education, Inc. PEARSON

Slide 10

6.2 Responsibility for redistricting most often belongs to:

- a. Congress
- b. State legislatures**
- c. Political parties
- d. Independent commissions

ALWAYS LEARNING American Government: Roots and Reform, 2014 Election Update, 12e © 2016, 2014, 2011 Pearson Education, Inc. PEARSON

Generally, state legislatures have this duty. Some states have used independent commissions to avoid partisan politics.

Slide 11

Pork

Pork, legislation that allows representatives to bring home money and jobs to their districts in the form of public works programs, military bases, or other programs. These were once called earmarks, but are now known as programmatic requests.



ALWAYS LEARNING American Government: Roots and Reform, 2014 Election Update, 12e © 2016, 2014, 2011 Pearson Education, Inc. PEARSON

Pork, legislation that allows representatives to bring home money and jobs to their districts in the form of public works programs, military bases, or other programs. These were once called earmarks, but are now known as programmatic requests. Bring home some bacon and voters in your district will love you, but does your pork serve the rest of the country?

Slide 12

TABLE 6.6 What is the timeline for the congressional budgetary process?

TABLE 6.6 WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGETARY PROCESS?

Date	Action
First Monday in February	President submits budget to Congress —President's budget is prepared by the Office of Management and Budget; includes requested levels of spending for the next fiscal year.
February 15	Budget outlooks —Congressional Budget Office submits economic projections to the House and Senate Budget Committees.
April 15	Budget resolution —Congress must complete action on the initial version of a budget resolution.
May 15	Appropriation begins —House begins to consider appropriations bills.
June 10	Appropriations Committee —House Appropriations Committee should conclude consideration of appropriations issues.
June 15	Reconciliation ends —House must handle any reconciliation bills by this date.
June 30	Appropriation ends —Full House should conclude consideration of all appropriations bills.
October 1	Fiscal year begins —Government's fiscal year runs from October 1 to September 30.

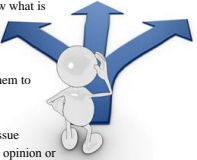
ALWAYS LEARNING American Government: Roots and Reform, 2014 Election Update, 12e © 2016, 2014, 2011 Pearson Education, Inc. PEARSON

This calendar gives you a sense of how long it takes Congress to develop the budget, and what some of the deadlines are.

Slide 13

How Members of Congress Make Decisions

- Trustees-base votes on how what is believed to be best.
- Delegates-voting the way constituents would want them to vote.
- Politicos-depends on the issue whether to vote one's own opinion or what constituents want.



ALWAYS LEARNING American Government: Principles and Practices, 2014 Edition Update, 12e Copyright © 2013, 2014, 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. PEARSON

When voting on policy issues, members of Congress must decide how to best represent their constituents. Representatives or senators who listen to the concerns of their constituents but use their best judgment are voting as **trustees**. When they vote the way their constituents want, they are voting as **delegates**. A **politico** at times votes as a trustee and at others votes as a delegate.

Much thought goes into making policy and program decisions. Representatives and senators generally consult many people from different groups, interests, and backgrounds. These include political parties; constituents; colleagues and caucuses; interest groups, lobbyists and political action committees; and staff and support agencies.

Slide 14

The End



6

ALWAYS LEARNING American Government: Principles and Practices, 2014 Edition Update, 12e Copyright © 2013, 2014, 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. PEARSON