

NAME: _____

INTRO TO THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH LECTURE NOTES (40 POINTS)

1. What does bicameral mean?
2. How many members occupy the House of Representatives and Senate? How long are terms for each? How is membership determined?
3. Identify several powers of Congress as determined by the US Constitution:
4. What is the Elastic Clause?
5. What is the difference between descriptive and substantive representation?
6. Describe the average member of Congress. Do they clearly reflect the general American public, in your opinion? Why or Why not?
7. What are the required qualifications for membership in the U.S. House of Representatives?
8. Who is the Speaker of the House and what is his main job?
9. What unique "special powers" does the US House of Representatives have?

(OVER)

10. What are the required qualifications for membership in the US Senate?
11. Who is the current President of the Senate?
12. What “special powers” does the US Senate have?
13. Who are Montana’s current US Senators?
14. What special privileges do all members of the US Congress possess?
15. What is an incumbent? What advantages do incumbents possess?
16. What are pork barrel projects and earmarks?
17. Why do incumbents sometimes lose?
18. What other significant differences exist between the US House of Representatives and the US Senate?
19. How does a bill become a law?