

Congress in Action **See last page regarding Late Work for this Project.

Purpose

This assignment will demonstrate the process of how a bill becomes a law. You will also learn about the membership and duties of a Congressional Committee.

A. The Law Making Process: 107th U.S. Congress

Source: Thomas (Ms.S.Work Government Assignment Web Sites for Congress in Action) or find at <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas2.html>

1. Enter the number of you bill or resolution in the Thomas locator box and press Search.
2. Click on the **last version** of the bill or resolution.
3. In the table, click on **Bill Summary and Status file**.
4. Click on **All Bill and Status Info**.

Supply the following information for the Bill assigned to you. Word processed/typed.

Complete Sentence Answers!!!

1. Number of the Bill (or Resolution)
2. Was this a private or public bill?
3. Sponsor
4. Date Introduced
5. Latest Major Action
6. Title (as introduced)
7. Date/Name of the Committee(s) to which the bill was introduced.
8. Date when the Bill was reported from the Committee(s)
9. How did the Bill get to the floor of the House for consideration? (Which Calendar was it placed on? If it was not placed on a Calendar, what happened?)
10. Date the Bill was received by the Senate.
11. Was Conference Committee action needed
12. Date the Bill was presented to the President.
13. Date of President's response. (Sign/Veto)
14. How long did the law-making process take?
15. How many co-sponsors?
16. Find out the political party of the sponsor and co-sponsors (up to 10). Would you characterize this bill as a Republican Bill, a Democratic Bill or a Bi-partisan bill?
17. Was the subject matter of this bill most important, very important, somewhat important, not important? Why?

Assigned Bills/Resolutions

1. H.J.Res. 7	8. H.R. 802	15. H.R. 2330	22. S.J.Res. 22	29. S. 1447
2. H.J.Res. 42	9. H.R. 1161	16. H.R. 2620	23. S.J.Res. 23	30. S. 1465
3. H.J.Res. 51	10. H.R. 1696	17. H.R. 2888	24. S. 248	
4. H.R. 93	11. H.R. 1727	18. H.R. 2924	25. S. 360	
5. H.R. 182	12. H.R. 2133	19. H.R. 2926	26. S. 657	
6. H.R. 428	13. H.R. 2213	20. H.R. 3162	27. S. 700	
7. H.R. 768	14. H.R. 2330	21. S.J.Res. 6	28. S. 1424	

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B. Roll Call Votes.

Source: Ms. S. Work Assignment Web Sites for Congress in Action—appropriate roll call votes links or find at

Senate: http://www.senate.gov/legislative/vote1071/vote_menu.html

House: <http://clerkweb.house.gov/evs/2001/index.asp>

1. Senate—Look over the list of roll call votes. Choose five and create a table with the following information. (#1-15 = Senator Durbin. #16-30 = Senator Fitzgerald.)

Do not choose motion or cloture votes.

Column titles

A. Vote

B. Date

C. Measure

D. Result

E. Title/Description

F. My Senator's Vote (include Senator's Name)

2. House—Look over the list of roll call votes. Choose five and create a table with the following information. (You need to know your U.S. Representative—see “Who's Who.”)

Do not choose motion votes.

A. Roll

B. Date

C. Issue

D. Question

E. Result

F. Title/Description

G. My Representative's vote (include Representative's name)

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C. Committee Work

Source: Thomas (look for the appropriate link)

Ms.S.Work: Government Assignment Web Sites for Congress in Action or

<http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas2.html>

Supply the following information for the Committee assigned to you. Word Processed.

Complete Sentence Answers

1. Describe the Committee's web site
 - A. What links are provided on the homepage.
 - B. Is the homepage attractive?--Describe with specifics.
 - C. Is the web site easy to navigate?
 - D. Can you tell from the homepage what the Committee is currently working on? Describe with specifics.
 - E. Is the homepage/web site slanted in favor of the majority party or not? Explain.
2. Committee Structure/Responsibilities.
 - A. Name of Chairman, political party
 - B. Ranking Minority Member, party
 - C. Total number of members.
 - D. Name the sub-committees.
 - E. Jurisdiction (area of concentration)--Summarize.
 - 1) House Committees--look for jurisdiction in the Committee's history.
 - 2) Senate Committees--look for Jurisdiction section.

Committee Assignments

1. H.Agriculture	8. H.Gov't Reform	15. H.Veterans Affairs	22. S.Commerce, Science, and Transportation	29. S.Small Business
2. H.Appropriations	9. H.International Relations	16. H.Ways and Means	23. S. Energy and Natural Resources	30. S.Veterans Affairs
3. H.Armed Services	10. H.Judiciary	17. S.Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.	24. S.Environment and Public Works	
4. H. Budget	11. H.Resources	18. S. Appropriations	25. S. Finance	
5. H. Education and the Workforce	12. H.Science	19. S. Armed Services	26. Foreign Relations	
6. H. Energy and Commerce	13. H.Small Business	20. S.Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs	27. S. Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions	
7. H. Financial Services	14. H. Transport. and Infrastructure	21. S.Budget	28. S. Indian Affairs	

**NO PART OF THIS PROJECT WILL BE ACCEPTED LATE FOR ANY REASON.
 IF YOU ARE NOT IN SCHOOL ON THE DUE DATE, MAKE SURE IT IS MAILED AND POSTMARKED ON THE DUE DATE. See What's New/What's Due for due dates.**

