

Information Sheet for Article I-The Legislative Branch

Who?	The Congress made up of the House of Representatives (435 members) and the Senate (100 members).	
Requirements	<u>House of Representatives</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 25 years old • A U.S. citizen for the past 7 years • Must live in the state they represent 	<u>Senate</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 30 years old • A U.S. citizen for the past 9 years • Must live in the state they represent
Term	<u>House of Representatives</u> 2 years	<u>Senate</u> 6 years
Special Powers	<u>House of Representatives</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must introduce laws that make people pay taxes • Can decide if a government official should be put on trial before the Senate 	<u>Senate</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must approve any treaties of the President • Must approve any people the President recommends for jobs including ambassadors and Supreme Court Justices • Can hold a trial for a government official who does something very wrong
Powers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To make laws 2. To tax the people 3. To raise an army and navy to defend the country 4. To declare war 5. To create a court system 6. To coin money 7. To regulate trade between states 8. To regulate trade between the U.S. and other countries 	
Limits on Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannot make unfair laws such as those that would limit a person's right to freedom of speech or religion • The Supreme Court can declare a law unconstitutional • The President can veto a law 	