

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	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 	