

# Legislative Branch & Elections

## US Congress

- 535 members
- Both parts need to agree (*majority*) to pass law
  - Then goes to president

## Senators

- 100 members (*2 per state*)
- 30+ years old
- 6 year term, Why?
  - Stability
  - To avoid short-term political pressure
    - "Long term vision"
  - Represent more people (more work)
  - Focuses more on the nation

## House of Representatives

- 435 members (*Based on population, 1  $\approx$  700000*)
- 25+ years old
- 2 year term, Why?
  - Serve community right here, right now
  - If they aren't doing change, change them
  - Focuses on the state

## Iowa

### Senators

- Charles (Chuck) Grassley (R) (*Senior Senator*)
- Joni Ernst (R) (*Junior Senator*)

### Representatives (*by district*)

1. Abby Finkenauer (D)
2. Dave Loebsack (D)
3. Cindy Axne (D)
4. Steve King (R)

## Gerrymandering

- The process of drawing district lines to benefit a political party.

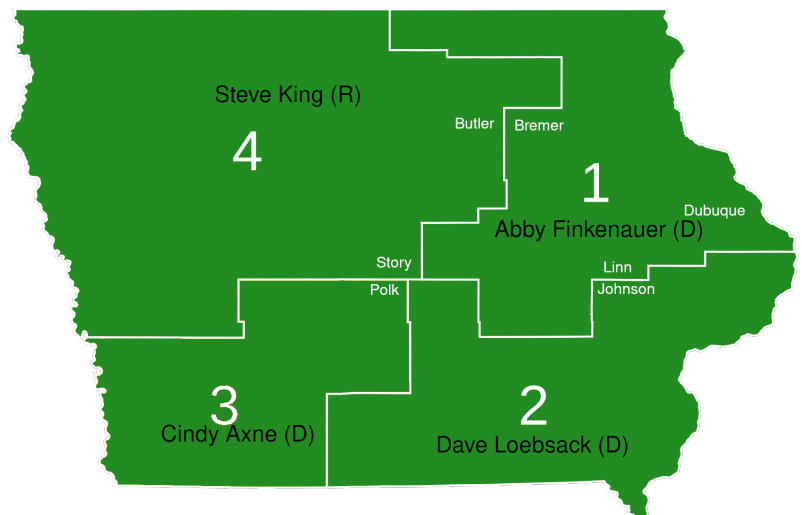


Figure 1: Iowa's Congressional Districts