

## 3-1 The Structure and Makeup of Congress

### I. Apportionment of House Seats

- **Apportionment**: Distribution of seats
- States with larger populations have more seats

### II. Congressional Districts

- **Congressional District**: Area that a congressperson represents

#### A. The Size of the House

- until 1929, the size of the House was increased with change in population
- In 1929, a law set the number at 435

#### B. The Requirement of Equal Representation

- Congressional Districts are drawn by state legislature, or given to an independent body on their behalf
- It is the right of state voters to decide who gets to handle redistricting

##### 1. Past Abuses

- If congressional districts are not made of equal populations, that creates a structure where everyone's votes are of differing value
- In the 1960s, there was a point where many states' largest district was twice the size of the smallest

##### 2. The Supreme Court Addresses the Issue

- The Supreme Court refused to address the issue until 1962
- In 1962, the SC ruled that Tennessee's malapportionment was unconstitutional (equal protection under the law)
- **Malapportionment**: When votes in 1 district are worth greater or less than that of another district

#### C. Gerrymandering

- **Gerrymandering**: The drawing of a district's boundaries in a way such to make one political party's voters more valuable
- **Racial Gerrymandering**: Gerrymandering based off of the majority race in that district
  - Controversial, some say minorities are underrepresented (see: Voting Rights Act of 1965)
  - Others say that it is unconstitutional (equal protection clause)

### III. The Representation Function of Congress

#### A. The Trustee View of Representation

- **Trustee View of Representation**: The belief that representatives should act as trustees
- **Trustee**: A representative who tries to serve the broad interests of society

#### B. The Instructed-Delegate View of Representation

- **Instructed-Delegate View of Representation**: The belief that representatives should behave as Instructed Delegates
- **Instructed Delegate**: A representative that tries to mirror the view of the majority of their voters

#### C. The Partisan View of Representation

- **The Partisan View of Representation**: The belief that representatives should be both trustees and instructed delegates

Vocab: **Highlighted text**