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Milestone 1

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When this great country was founded, there were three branches of government: executive, legislative, and judiciary. It's safe to say that there is rich data on the history of this country. The project will be looking into the history and data of the legislation branch. To be more exact, I will be doing this over the House of Representatives. What will be investigated is campaign finance like super PACS and number of terms elected.

The relationship between all data sources is both state and name. For example, Rob Portman is a congressman that is from Oklahoma. There are also campaign funds that are distributed in his name. There is a lot of other information that can be gathered from these three sources. There are a few things that must be done to make sense of the information. I will have to clean and shorten the data. One of the data sets has over 3000 records so it will need to be refined. It will also be necessary to combine and merge the data sources by their primary key. In this case, the name will be the relationship between all the data sets.

The challenge will be with the API. The API might be restricted to only a few data sources and years. For example, when I run it for 2016, it runs correctly. When I run it for 2014, it doesn't pick it up. With that said, it will be interesting putting the data together to see which member of the house of representatives took Pac money.

Overall, my reason for picking this project is my interest in politics. I graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a political science degree. I have even considered to one day run for the House of Representatives. Therefore, this subject will be a fun one to try. My goal is to get as much information out of these data sets as possible.

Data Sources

Candidates - ProPublica Campaign Finance API. (2022). Candidates. Retrieved from <https://projects.propublica.org/api-docs/campaign-finance/candidates/>

Wikipedia. (2022). List of current members of the United States House of Representatives. Retrieved from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_current_members_of_the_United_States_House_of_Representatives

Harvard Dataverse. (2021). U.S. Senate 1976–2020. Retrieved from <https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=doi%3A10.7910%2FDVN%2FEJ5QU>