**US Congress**

The US Congress is *bicameral* meaning that it is composed of two houses: the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Every state has exactly two Senators (a junior and a senior member), but a variable number of Representatives (exactly one per district).

No senator can represent more than one state at a time. Likewise, no Representative can serve more than one district at a time.

Every state has a variable number of districts (dependent on population), but every state has at least one district.

Districts have numbers (e.g., district 1). A given Congressperson\* (Senator or Representative) cannot serve in both houses at a given time.

Congresspeople (House & Senate) have names and e-mail addresses.

Every Congressperson is a member of exactly one political party (assume Independent is a party)

Exactly one member of the House is designated as Speaker of the House.

Lastly, Congresspeople belong to congressional committees which have names and sponsor bills, which also have names.

\* We use “congressperson” here to denote either a member of the House or the Senate, though in reality people often use “congressperson” for only the House and use “senator” for the Senate.