The Legislative Branch

Chapter 8: State and Local Legislatures

1. **State Legislatures**
2. State Legislatures
3. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-** are lawmakers that are voted in by the citizens in order to pass laws on their behalf.
4. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** legislature: States whom legislatures are divided into two houses.
5. House of Representatives (larger of the two)
6. Senate (smaller of the two)
7. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** legislature: Is a one-house legislature
8. Only Nebraska, called the Senate.
9. Organization of State Legislatures
10. State legislatures vary greatly in **\_\_\_\_\_**.
11. Largest: New Hampshire, 400 Representatives and 24 Senators.
12. Smallest: Alaska, 40 Representatives and 20 Senators.
13. These **\_\_\_\_\_\_** legislatures are organized to represent all citizens of the **\_\_\_\_\_\_** equally.
14. Therefore, each state is divided into districts.
15. Reynolds v. Sims, ruled that state legislative districts must be equal in population.
16. Sessions and Leaders
17. This process is similar to that of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.
18. Most state **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** meet in regular sessions every year, some every **\_\_\_\_\_** years.
19. In most states the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** governor presides over the state Senate.
20. In the House of Representatives, they often elect their leader, called the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.
21. The leader of each house appoints its **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** members.
22. Qualifications and Terms
23. The qualifications and terms of state legislatures vary from **\_\_\_\_\_\_** to state.
24. Most require that they be U.S. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.
25. In almost all states you must live in the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** you are representing.
26. Generally speaking you must be **\_\_\_** years old to be a Senator and 21 to be a Representative.
27. In most states Senators serve **\_\_\_\_\_\_** year terms and Representatives serve two year terms.
28. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** vary by state, EX. In Rhode Island they make $10,000 per year and in New York $79,500.
29. State Legislative Elections
30. Primary Elections
31. All state senators and **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**are directly elected by the people in their voting districts
32. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**states the process of election looks similar to the congressional elections but on a smaller scale
33. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**typically take part in elections to be put on the general election ballot
34. Some states require a two-part process consisting of a closed or semi-closed primary which only voters registered of a certain party can choose candidates from their party
35. Other states any voter can vote on either party’s candidates
36. Campaign Finance
37. Some candidates for state legislatures **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** millions of dollars trying to get elected, others very little
38. The **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of money spent on a state election depends on the political importance of the district in question and the party affiliations of its voters
39. Some state legislative elections attract quite a bit of national attention (example: when a state prepares to redraw districts)
40. **Local Governments**
41. Civic Participation in Local Government
42. The **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**have more power at the local level than any other level
43. Participating in **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** government is easier than it is at other levels of government simply because of proximity
44. At the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** level the elected officials do not wait for the citizens to come to they often go to the people
45. Many **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and private groups make it their mission to educate people about how to be informed, engaged, and involved in local government
46. Government Structure and Lawmaking
47. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**-are normally the largest territorial and political subdivision within the state
48. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**-can be called municipality, they have a certain size population and geographic area
49. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**-exist as units of local government in 20 states, services vary state to state, historically they were governed with very direct participation of their residents
50. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**-are designed to be able to better respond to specific problems, they are units of local government that deal with a specific function
51. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**-are usually governed by an elected local body (school board), and they determine the budget for the school system and decide on new school programs and facilities
52. **State and Local Legislative Policy**
53. Public Policy Concerns of State Legislatures
54. Many states have **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to add more stringent requirements to voting
55. Example: Laws to prevent voter fraud
56. There are opponents to these laws arguing that it impacts certain groups of people
57. Some states who have initiated voter ID have been blocked by the federal government
58. States are attempting to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** their energy needs to protect the environment by regulating the use of energy sources
59. Some states governments are in charge of ensuring that schools and education programs are providing the best outcomes for students
60. Example: passing laws to allow public charter schools to not follow state laws
61. Looking for ways to assess and evaluate teacher quality
62. Finding ways to fund higher education
63. Legislatures often **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** laws in responds to trends in crime
64. Public Policy Concerns in local legislatures
65. One of the goals of local governments is to create **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** cites, and so they must regulate land use by passing zoning ordinances
66. Both **\_\_\_\_\_\_** and local governments address transportation issues by providing mass transit systems
67. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**develop is handled by both the state and local government as it is their number one concern
68. Smaller cities have to find away ways to promote business to compete with larger cities
69. Many states and cities offer incentives to get investments into their economy
70. They also pass policies that will help the workers of their state and cities

