



# CONGRESSIONAL GRIDLOCK





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## **The Nature and Functions of Congress**

### **Bicameralism**

**The Lawmaking Function**

**The Representation Function**

**Service to Constituents**

**The Oversight Function**

**The Public-Education Function**

**The Conflict-Resolution Function**



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## Separation of Powers

### Founders' View



Article 1



Article 2



Article 3



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## Enumerated Powers of Congress

- **Impose a variety of taxes, including tariffs on imports.**
- Borrow funds.
- **Regulate interstate commerce and international trade.**
- Establish procedures for naturalizing citizens.
- Make laws regulating bankruptcies.
- Coin (and print) currency, and regulate its value.
- Establish standards of weights and measures.
- Punish counterfeiters.
- Establish post offices and post roads.
- Regulate copyrights and patents.
- Establish the federal court system.
- Punish illegal acts on the high seas.
- **Declare war.**
- Raise and regulate an army and a navy.
- Call up and regulate the state militias to enforce laws, to suppress insurrections, and to repel invasions.
- Govern the District of Columbia.

## Article 1 Section 8

### **The necessary and proper clause**



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## Enumerated Powers of Congress



- **Constitutional amendments**
  - **Certify Presidential Election (12)**
  - **Levy an Income Tax (16)**
  - **Determine Acting President (20 & 25)**
- **Powers of the Senate**
  - **Advise and Consent on Treaties**
  - **Advise and Consent on Appointments**



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## Enumerated Powers of the Executive

### Article II Sections 2-3

- **Commander in Chief of the Active Military and the Reserves when called up.**
- Grant reprieves and pardons.
- **Make Treaties with the advice and consent of the Senate.**
- Appointment power with the advice and consent of the Senate
- Recess appointments
- **Recommend issues to the Congress for consideration.**
- Receive Ambassadors.
- **Take care that the laws be faithfully executed.**
- Commission all officers of the U.S.





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## House-Senate Differences

	House	Senate
<b>Size</b>	<b>435+</b>	<b>100</b>
<b># Republicans/Democrats/Independents</b>	<b>R 237 D 193 0 V 5 4R/1D</b>	<b>R 52 D 46 2</b>
<b>Rules/Debate</b>	<b>Rules Committee</b>	<b>Filibuster &amp; Cloture</b>

**Reconciliation (budget bills)**