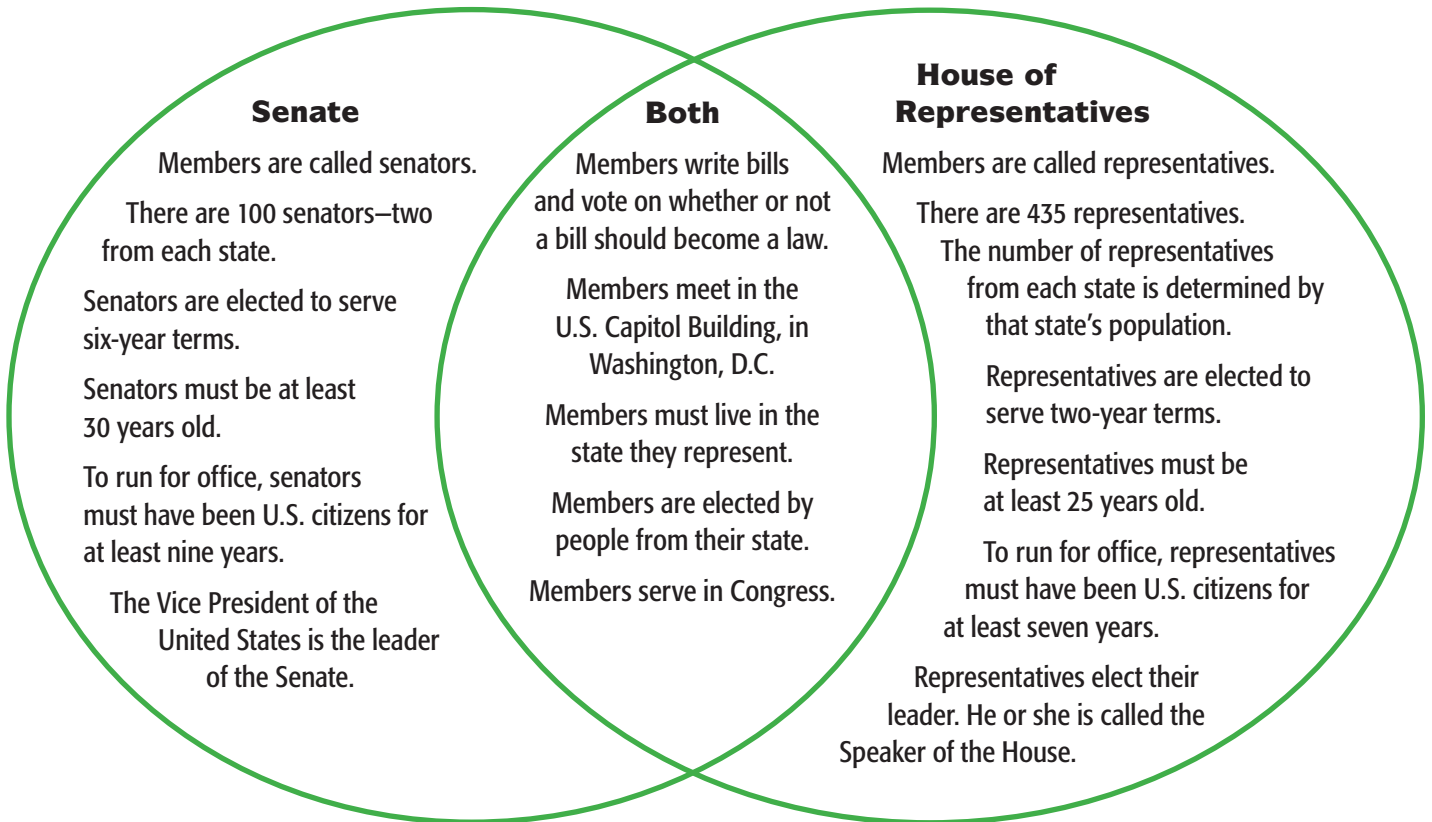


The Legislative Branch

The **legislative**, or lawmaking, branch of the U.S. government is called Congress. Congress is made up of two houses, or groups: the Senate and the House of Representatives. To learn about the differences and similarities between the two houses, study the Venn diagram. Then answer the questions.



1. True or false: Members of the Senate and members of the House of Representatives meet in separate buildings. _____
2. How many more representatives are there than senators? _____
3. In which house of Congress is the U.S. Vice President the leader? _____
4. California is the state with the most people, and Wyoming is the state with the fewest people. Does California have more than, fewer than or the same number of senators as Wyoming? Explain.

5. Tax bills can be proposed in the House of Representatives, but not in the Senate. Add a star to the section of the diagram where this information should appear.

BONUS When the Constitution was being written, some people wanted a state's number of Congress members to be based on population. Other people wanted every state to have the same number of Congress members. What was decided? Do you think this compromise is fair? Explain your answer on the back of this page.