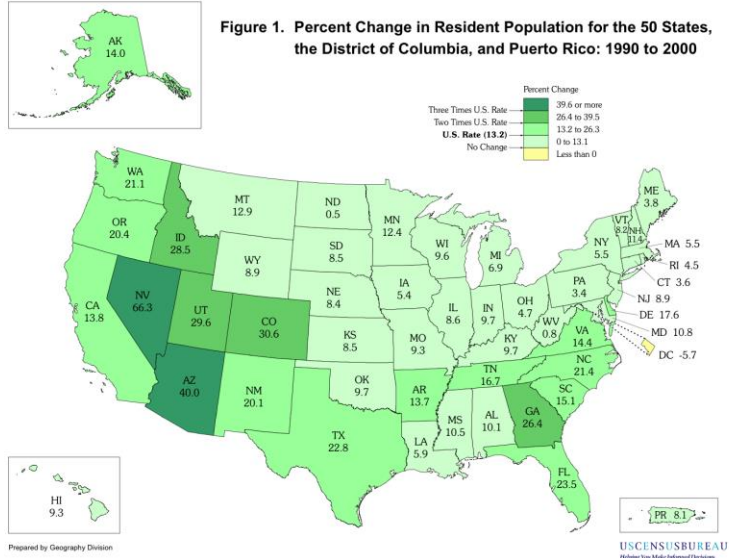


## Census



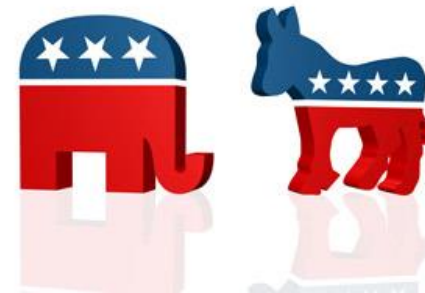
A population count conducted by the Census Bureau every ten years. Used to set representation in the House.

## Constituent



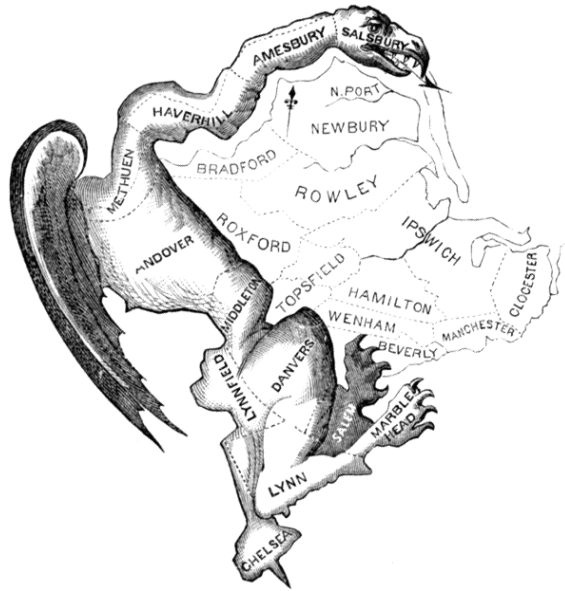
A person from a legislator's district.

## Majority Party



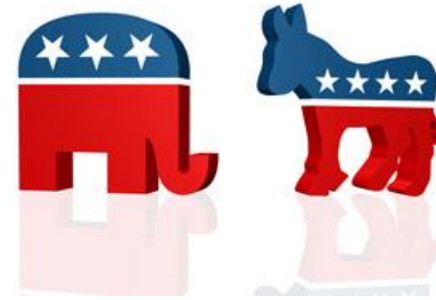
In both the House & Senate, the political party to which more than half the members belongs to.

## Gerrymander



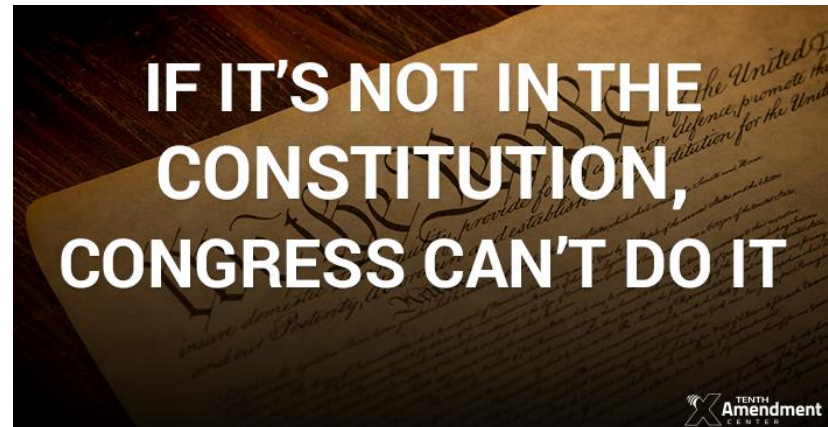
An oddly shaped election district designed to increase the voting strength of a particular group or political party.

## Minority Party



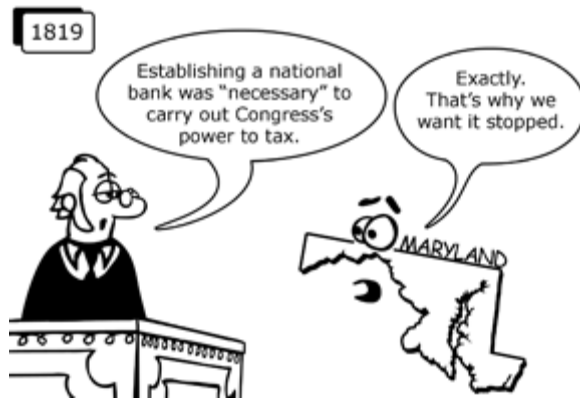
In both the House & Senate, the political party to which fewer than half the members belongs to.

Expressed Powers or Enumerated Powers



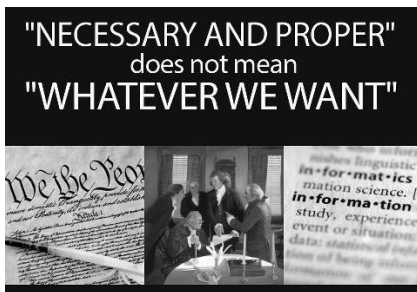
Powers that the US Congress have that are specifically listed in the Constitution.

## Implied Powers



Power that Congress has that is not stated explicitly written out in the Constitution.

## Elastic Clause



A portion of Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution that gives Congress the right to make all laws "necessary and proper" to carry out its expressed powers.

## Nonlegislative Power



Duties that Congress holds besides making laws.

## Franking Privilege



The right of senators and representatives to send job related mail without paying postage.

## Impeach



To accuse government officials of misconduct in office. A majority vote in the House is needed. The Senate then acts as the jury and needs a 2/3rds vote to convict.

## Writ of Habeas Corpus



A court order that requires police to bring a prisoner to court to explain why they are holding the person. It is a limit on the power of the government.

## Bill of Attainder



A law that punishes a person accused of a crime without a trial or a fair hearing in court. Congress is forbidden from passing them.

## Ex post facto law



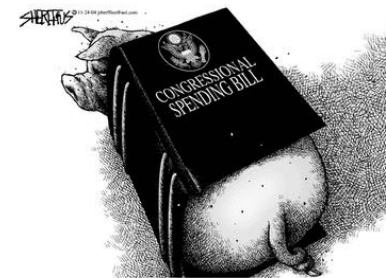
A law that allows a person to be punished for an action that was not against the law when it was committed. Congress is not allowed to pass them.

## Lobbyist



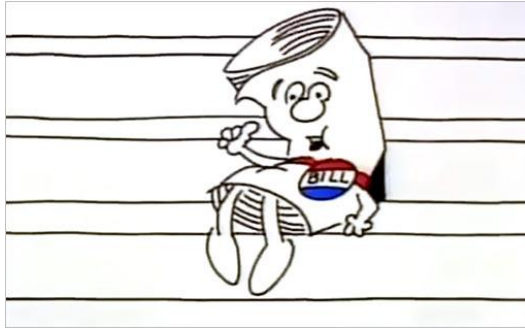
Representatives of an interest group who contact law makers or other government officials directly to influence their policy making.

## Pork-barrel Project



A government project that primarily helps a congressperson's home district or state.

## Joint Resolution



A resolution that is passed by both houses of Congress.

## Rider



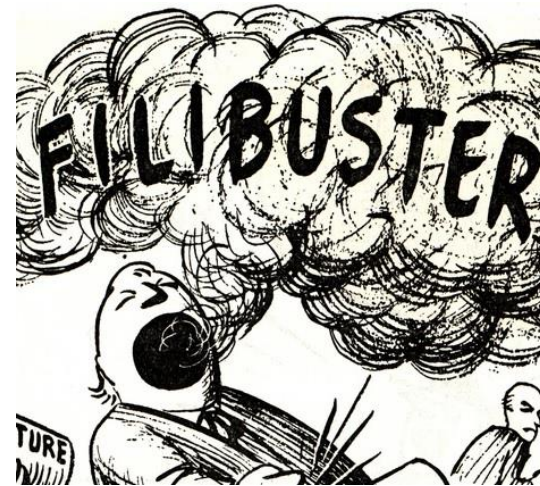
A completely unrelated amendment added to a bill.

## Special - interest group



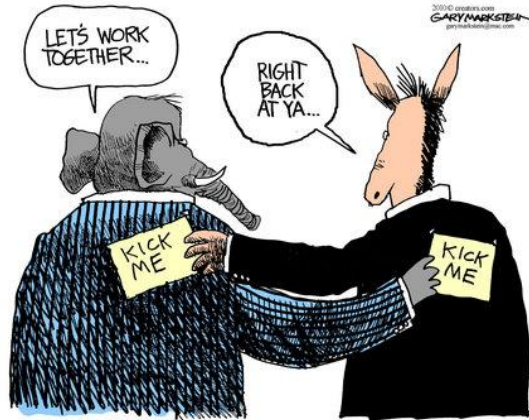
An organization of people with some common interest who try to influence government decisions.

## Filibuster



A tactic for defeating a bill in the Senate by talking until the bill's sponsor withdraws it.

## Cloture



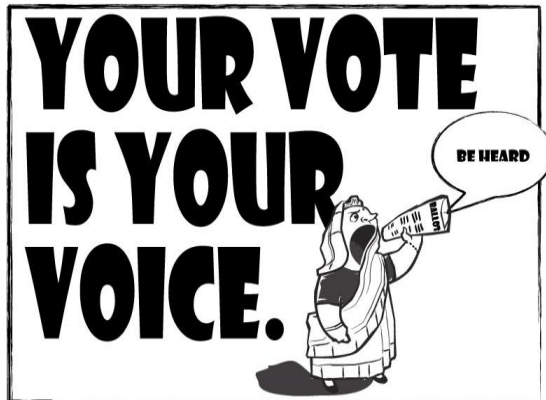
A procedure used in the Senate to limit debate on a bill.

## Standing Vote



In Congress, when members stand to be counted for a vote on a bill.

## Voice Vote



A voting method in which those in favor say 'Aye' those against say 'No'.

## Roll-call Vote



A voting method in the Senate in which member's voice their votes

## Pocket veto



President's power to kill a bill, in Congress is not in session, by not signing in for 10 days.