

Senate vs. House

Perhaps the fiercest arguments during the Congressional Convention came when the delegates began to determine how power should be divided in the government. States with large populations wanted to be represented in Congress by population count, but the less-populated states thought this arrangement was unfair. Eventually a compromise was reached. It was called the Great Compromise, and it established some rules for Congress that both sides were able to agree upon.

Read the statements below. As a group, determine if each statement is true of the Senate only, the House of Representatives only, or if it is true for both. Circle the *S* if the sentence is true for the Senate only; circle the *H* if the statement is true for the House only; circle both the *S* and the *H* if the statement is true for both the Senate and House members.

1. S H Each state has only two members in it.
2. S H To qualify, a person must be a citizen for seven years.
3. S H They vote on bills.
4. S H A candidate must be at least 25 years old.
5. S H It would allow one representative for every 40,000 inhabitants.
6. S H Two-thirds of them are required to override the President's veto.
7. S H Members serve a term of six years.
8. S H They must approve the President's choice for Supreme Court Justice.
9. S H A person must be a citizen for nine years to qualify to become one.
10. S H They are members of Congress.
11. S H They serve a term of two years.
12. S H This has the most members.
13. S H Bills can start here.
14. S H Its candidates must be at least thirty years old.
15. S H They choose a Speaker as their leader.
16. S H Its President is the Vice-President of the United States.
17. S H They have the sole power to hold a trial for all impeachments.
18. S H Members must be an inhabitant of the state in which they are chosen.

