Congress:

Lecture 3

Paths to Power

Power

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Leadership

The Twins…

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“Once assigned to a committee or subcommittee, a member is expected to specialize in its work and become an expert in that area”

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“Members look for guidance in voting on legislation outside their own committee’s field to members of the committee that specializes in it.”

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unwritten, but very powerful rule

Length of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ = level of seniority

Committee \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have historically been selected based on seniority

Lost some strength in the mid 70’s; now the party caucus can use appointments as rewards and punishment

These days party \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is also a major factor in appointments to plum positions

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A gathering of all members of the same \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ serving in the House or Senate

The Republican majority in the House calls its caucus the Republican Conference

The Caucus/Conference chooses the minority/majority leader and the whips

Not to be confused with Presidential caucuses

Many sub-groups have their own caucus

Congressional Caucuses

**Caucus**: an association of members of Congress created to advocate a political ideology or a regional or economic interest

**Intra-party caucuses**: members share a similar ideology

**Personal interest caucuses**: members share an interest in an issue

**Constituency caucuses**: established to represent groups, regions or both

Leadership Organization

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Leadership vs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Leadership**

**House**

**­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Selected every \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years**

* **Often serves for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Leader**
* **2nd in command**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

http://clerk.house.gov/member\_info/leadership.aspx

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* **The person \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **Party Leader**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**President \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* **Honorary, based on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **For the time being**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Officer - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* **Presides – but not often**
* **Breaks ties (6 months for Cheney)**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (D) Delaware**
* **http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/senators/a\_three\_sections\_with\_teasers/leadership.htm**

Majority and Minority Leadership

Majority Leader – Political Leader

* ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ House; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Senate

Minority Leader – I’d be the boss if *WE* were in charge

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ House; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Senate

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – coordinate party positions

Name comes from English \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“Whipper-in” keeps dogs from running away

Counts \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ votes in line

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Party Loyalty

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: members who show less \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and do not abide by informal rules

Now, not a single chairman in either side believes they are there because of the leadership. (Dick Army)

The Floor

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – list of bills scheduled for hearing or vote

Majority, Super Majority

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

C-Span

Filibusters

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ debate

Used to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ progress of a bill you don’t care for. Very effective \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in session when time is short.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (too many members in the House…)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ requires 3/5th of the Senate (60) to invoke…

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which is a vote to end the debate.

Congressional Staff

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a major task of members’ staff

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of staff include devising proposals, negotiating agreements, organizing hearings, and meeting with lobbyists and administrators

Members’ staff consider themselves advocates of their employers

Staff

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ employees

Committee staff has declined in recent years.

Minimum personal staff: 18 full time, 4 part time in the House, no limit in the Senate but budget.

Wasserman: they “organize hearings, negotiate… research… speak with voters, and promote legislation.” They initiate policies and “sell” them to their bosses.

Elected Staff?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sergeant at Arms

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Executive/Legislative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Even if the House, the Senate and the President ALL come from the same party, and certainly if they do not,

Even if the President (and/or the Vice President) was recently part of the Legislative Branch,

Even if the President has a substantial mandate of public support,

They trust each other

“as far as I can throw ‘em…”

Other Powers

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:  
Confirming and Ratifying

The Senate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the President’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Judicial

Executive

Diplomatic

They can delegate the authority to fill certain “inferior” positions without confirmation

Again, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ do the work

A major component of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Senate Must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Foreign Relations Committee

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ retains the power of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on this. (Can you say Kyoto?)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

We brought you into the world and we can take you out! (But they never do…)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(The GAO)

Examines governmental programs and departments

Looks for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ efficiency, consistency with legislative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of operations

Analogous to Legislative Auditors at the state level

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Congress can investigate whatever it wishes!

Often viewed as a grandstanding, partisan activity

Oh yeah, this really helps with legislative/ executive tension!

Joe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the House Un-American Activities Committee

Impeachment

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ impeaches; the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ holds the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1868

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1998

Impeached but \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ convicted

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1974

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ instead of facing impeachment

Federal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can be (and have been) impeached (and convicted)

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Act

Congress has not used its constitutional power to declare war since \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Criticism of the President’s role in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ led to the War Powers Act of \_\_\_\_\_

The President may only commit troops abroad for a period of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, (90 if including withdrawal)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ must approve a longer period

Nixon \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it, they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the veto

Presidents don’t like it, but tend to go for some sort of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ resolution from Congress

Remember, no matter what, Congress still \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ things!

Next:

INCUMBENCY AND REAPPORTIONMENT