Congress:

Lecture 4

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

“Throw the Bums In”

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*?

I do not tink the word means what you tink that word means.

The Incumbency \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Incumbent:

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ officeholder

Advantages:

Staff

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (mail)

Publicity

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

http://www.opensecrets.org/overview/incumbs.php

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ pays off for incumbents

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ coverage is higher for incumbents.

Incumbents have greater \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ recognition due to franking, travel to the district, news coverage.

Members secure policies and programs for voters (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) http://www.pryor.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=08a1fa8a-dba6-41ad-af23-af80d0634121

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is friendly to incumbents.

Disadvantages

We hate the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of incumbency

Congressional Approval Ratings

At the time, December 2010’s 83% disapproval rating was the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Gallup has measured in more than 30 years of tracking congressional job performance. Never challenge worse…

Does NOT Compute…

In 2004, 401 of 435 House members ran for re-election. 396 won. (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_%) Of the 26 Senators running, all but \_\_\_\_\_ won. (96%)

In 2006 Re-election rates were \_\_\_\_\_… 94.3% in the House, 79% in the Senate

In 2010 - the biggest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ since 1990, 87% of the House and 84% in the Senate

In 2012, with those incredibly low approval ratings, guess…

­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_% in the House and \_\_\_\_\_% in the Senate! No, I’m not kidding.

Charts from: Center for Responsive Politics

Term Limits

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ States have passed term limits for their legislative officials; \_\_\_ states still have them

Federal Officials remain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Arkansas’s little role in all this:

US TERM LIMITS vs \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Some at the Federal level have volunteered to “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”

(and usually failed to keep the promise)

Generally, the trend is fading

You Gotta Draw the Line Somewhere…

Reapportionment and Redistricting

I Count!

25 cent word for the day: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Article 1, Section 2 (3) …the actual enumeration…within every subsequent Term of ten years

The census was created to establish the correct number of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Everything else is bonus, or extra-constitutional, take your pick!)

Apportionment

Apportionment - the distribution of voters into districts; the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mal-apportionment - large differences in the population of Congressional districts

Reapportionement – the process of redistributing the populations amongst districts

Redistricting – the process of drawing the lines on the maps. Sounds simple, right?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ draw Federal House Lines

(Why not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?)

Their processes vary dramatically!

Bad Boys, Bad Boys…

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Governor Eldridge \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shaped district

Drawing district lines for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ purposes

Packing and Cracking

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – putting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of their people in one district

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – separating out the opposition so they can’t win

As Little Texas says: God Blessed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

It ain’t boring!

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

http://nationalatlas.gov/printable/images/preview/congdist/tx32\_109.gif

No More Snow for Me!

Changes in Apportionment

Here Come the Judge: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Apportionment is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; they will go “into the thicket”

“I Want to Soak Up the Sun”

Population shifts to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ means Yankees are losing seats.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Input: Big Guns, like Former House Majority Whip Tom Delay (Texas R) were purported to be involved in state level issues

Incumbency is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In case you’re interested…

Next: Money and Power:

Appropriations