

Helpful Legislative Branch Vocabulary

Congress: lawmakers who are members of the House of Representatives and the Senate

The Congress is also called the **legislature**. (n) a group of lawmakers

legislate: (v) to make laws

legislation: (n) a law

legislator: (n) a lawmaker

legislative: (adj) lawmaking

bill: an official proposal for a law that is sponsored by a Congressperson

committee: a small group of people who meet for some reason

floor: (as in brought to the floor of the Congress) the center of attention

majority: More than half – To pass a law, a majority of the Congress must vote for it.

- The political party with the majority of members in the House of Representatives gets to control the House. They elect the leader who is called the *Speaker of the House*.
- The political party with the majority of members in the Senate gets to control the Senate. They elect the leader who is called the *Senate Majority Leader*.

lobbyist: a person who pushes the members of Congress to either vote yes or no on a bill that is being considered - They are hired by a private company or a special interest group to make the opinions and needs of their employer clear to Congresspeople.