

Name _____



Go to our social studies webpage and click on the tab called **Legislative Branch Webquest**. The links for this webquest are listed in order. Most importantly...**READ** the directions for how to find the areas needed to answer each question. Don't rush! Start with **Link #1: Kids in the House** <http://kids.clerk.house.gov/grade-school/>

This should be **Kids in the House** for the grade school level. Click on the orange section, **House Officers**. On the right is a sticky note. Click on **House Members**.

Read the first paragraph and answer these questions:

1. How many representatives are there in the House of Representatives? _____
2. "The number of Representatives given to each state is based on its population. The more citizens a state has, _____."

The text says: "Each state is divided into districts based on the number of Representatives it receives. Each Representative serves one district."

3. Maine has two districts. So how many representatives does Maine have? _____

Keep reading in the third paragraph on the website:

4. How long is the term of a representative? _____

Now read in the fifth paragraph:



5. What two things do representatives spend most of their time doing while in Washington, D.C.?



Women in Congress

Click on **Link # 5**.

17. Write a complete sentence telling who the first woman to be elected to the House was and in what year she was elected. (Do not copy the exact sentence from the text. Write your own.)

18. Interesting side note: Women in the U.S.A. did not have the right to vote in elections until 1920. So, the first woman elected to Congress was elected how many years before women even had the right to vote in national elections? _____

19. List the full names of the four women from Maine that have served in the U.S. Congress. Be careful to spell and capitalize correctly.

To answer the next question, you will need to first click on **Link #6 for three senators** and then on **Link# 7 for one representative**.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

.....
• *Interesting fact:* •
• *From 2010 - 2012, three of* •
• *these four Maine women were* •
• *serving together in the U.S.* •
• *Congress. Since Maine has* •
• *only ever elected four women,* •
• *it is cool that three of them* •
• *served at the same time!* •
.....

20. Now, click on **Link # 8**. Read her biography, especially the *second sentence*.



This woman holds a special place in American history because she was the first to:

Yeah, Maine!



Using **Link #2** on Ms. Dill's website, go to **The Architect's Virtual Capitol** (www.capitol.gov).

- Click on **Discover** to watch the short video clip.

Imagine you are taking a helicopter ride over Washington, DC.

After that, click on the **Explore** Interactive Map and **hover your mouse** around the map to see all of the buildings that are part of the Capital Complex.

6. How many office buildings are there that hold the offices of people working for the House of Representatives? _____ How many office buildings hold the offices of senators? _____
(*Hint: The name of the building will say **House Office Building** or **Senate Office Building**.*)

7. Put a **star** on the Capitol Building in the picture above!

8. Laws made by Congress need to be clear and understandable. Sometimes, therefore, the courts must decide on the meaning of a law. Put an **SC** on the Supreme Court Building.



*Interesting Note: There are **turtles** found in the architecture at the Supreme Court. This is to symbolize the slow and steady pace of justice. It takes time to find the truth in a court case. It takes time to understand if laws are fair and right for our society. Judges should not sprint to conclusions, like a rabbit, but should be moving along with purpose, slowly, like a turtle so they do not miss the important details of life along the way!*

9. Click on the **Thomas Jefferson Building**. Read the first sentence of the description. This famous building is also known as:

The _____ of _____
_____. This is where representatives and senators do much of their research in order to decide on how to vote on a bill.



Now, click on **Link #3**, the official government website for the House of Representatives (<http://www.house.gov/>). Near the top left, click on the blue box, **Representatives**. Click on M, to find **Maine**. Click on each name and fill in the information you gather from their webpages in order to answer the questions on this page and the next page. Be sure to read the large print at the top of each representative's webpage! Write their names as first name then last name, please.

Example: Bonnie Dill not Dill, Bonnie



10. Name: _____

Circle which district she serves: 1st District 2nd District

Political Party: Democrat



11. Name: _____

Circle which district he serves: 1st District 2nd District

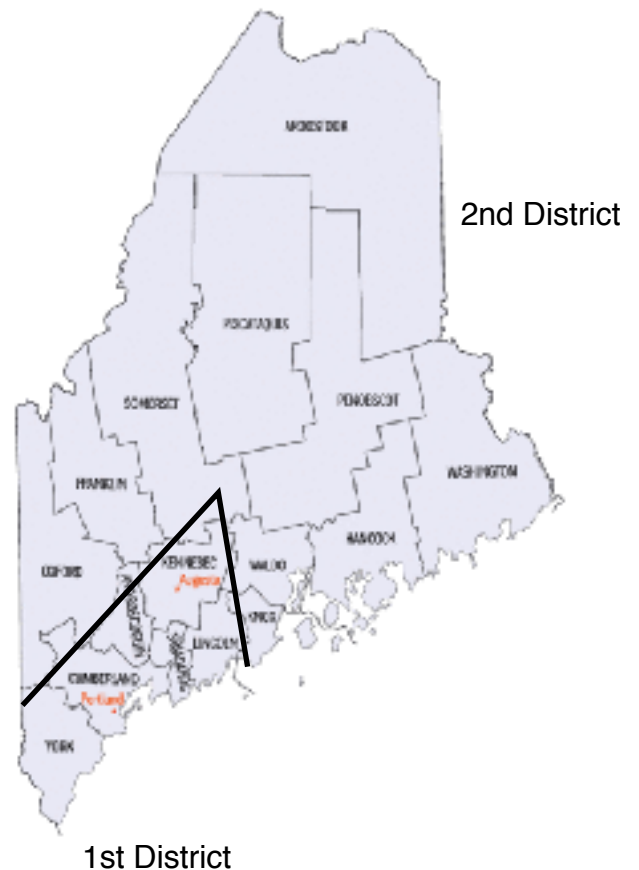
Political Party: Republican

12. List the six Maine counties in the first district:

(To get a closer look, see your counties map quiz in the Geo. Quiz section of your binder.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

13. Name the Congressperson representing you, in your district.



Go to Link #4: The Official Website of the U.S. Senate (<http://www.senate.gov/>). Click on **Senators** in the top left corner. Scroll down the page a bit until you see a long list of senators names. Type Maine in the search bar and click the magnifying glass to search for Maine.

14. What are the names of our two senators?



Senator: _____ (R-ME)



Senator: _____ (I- ME)

Next to their names you will see this: **(R-ME) and (I- ME)**

R= Republican

What party does our female senator belong to? _____

D= Democrat

I= Independent

What party does our male senator belong to? _____

G = Green

Click on the **Susan Collins** name to bring you to her webpage. On the left, click on **About Senator Collins**. You can read a short biography about her if you want to. If not, scroll down to the photo of her in a blue suit. Just underneath the photo you will see a list of committees that she serves on.

15. How many committees does she serve on? _____

She will be expected to be an expert on these topics. Name two of the committees she serves on:

- _____
- _____

16. Now go back to the page where you can click on **Angus King's** name using the back arrow. Click on **About Angus** and then on **Committee Assignments**. You will see that he also serves on several committees. Read the description of each committee. Match the name of the committee to the topic on which Senator King will become an expert: (Use the synonym strategy to make meaning.)

_____ Rules and Administration

a. how the **military** operates

_____ Intelligence

b. how the government **gathers information** about other countries, people, world events, etc.

_____ Armed Services

c. how the government will **spend tax money**

_____ Budget

d. how to make the Senate **run smoothly**, honestly, and openly

_____ Energy and Natural Resources

e. how to protect the **environment** while also lowering **energy costs**