

MOCK SENATE

Frye AP Gov

You have been elected to the United States Senate. You are about to go through a “Senate Session” in which you are under pressure from your party leaders and constituents to pass legislation that aids the nation, but also to block opposing legislation that harms the nation. There are points for this simulation.

POINTS and other rules *Total possible 50/35*

- A. Participation ... 30 possible
- B. Author/co-author* bill [*2 people max / +3 points, up to **12 max**] authorship/sponsorship
- C. Leaders & whips ...+2; Committee chairs +2
- D1. **IF Senate fails to pass at least 7 bills** [minus 5 for all];
- D2. **IF Senate fails to pass at least 5 bills** [minus 10 for all]
- E. Minority party may declare **filibuster** and freeze Senate
 - * But must have 40% vote to avoid cloture
 - * but Minority loses 3 points if filibuster lasts until end

The PROCESS [see JAN class calendar].

CAUCUS

- 1. Students identify with party
- 2. DAY ONE - Both parties choose “leaders” and “whips”
 - * Mr. Frye serves as Vice President/Pres pro tem
- 3. Leaders assign members to committees; majority party members may serve on two committees; minority members on three
- 4. Majority party chooses committee chairs

Committees:

Social Policy

Finance, Economics, and Taxation

Security and Foreign Policy

[if a 4th is needed] **Judiciary and Governmental Affairs**

BILL WRITING

- 5. Individual members write bills XMAS
- 6. Caucus writes bills DAY TWO
 - Maj/Min leader may assign authorship/sponsorship
- 7. Bills are submitted to Vice President – copies to all cmtte. Members DAY THREE/FOUR

COMMITTEE

- 8. Majority leader assigns bills to committees DAY FIVE...etc
- 9. Committees – round I
 - Debate led by chair*
 - May pass, pigeonhole, or amend proposed bills*

SENATE FLOOR

- 10. Resubmit to Vice President with amendments DAY FIVE– copies to all members on DAY SIX DAY SIX, SEVEN
- 11. Bills to the floor

Note: see <http://www.senate.gov/reference/resources/pdf/legprocessflowchart.pdf>

[For each bill]

12a. Debate the bill

Opening statement by author/sponsor

Note: The sponsor[s] may withdraw the bill at any time.

Others are recognized, rise, speak

Other members may ask the member to yield the floor

Sitting signifies the floor being open again

Speakers may motion to ban amendments [requires second] [requires 2/3 approval]

Anyone may motion to "table" the bill [kill it] [requires second]

** This may only be proposed once*

May motion to amend [speaker describes amendment] - no second

May debate amendment

May motion to amend the amendment [speaker describes amendment]

May debate the motion

Original proponent may agree or decline

May motion to close debate on amendment [requires second]

Motion to vote on Amendment - no second

May motion to close debate

May motion to vote [requires second]

12b. *May motion to ban debate and immediately move to a vote – CLOTURE*

[requires second] [requires 2/3 approval]

12c. *If a bill is deemed likely to be vetoed by the President, a second vote to override [by 2/3] required*

12d. *All bills will be considered; Vice President will declare CLOTURE if time runs short and all bills will face a straight up/down vote with no veto overrides [pocket veto].*

Bill format

Senate bill number [to be assigned by MAJORITY LEADER]

SB #123

Short title & date

A bill Making appropriations for the Department of Defense

IN THE SENATE JANUARY 1, 2013

INTRO PARAGRAPH

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

DESCRIBE...

What the bill will do

What federal agency or persons will do it

When it will be done

How it will be funded [if any...]