

Name _____ **Congressional Committees**

Committee (noun): a group chosen to investigate and report on or act upon a particular matter that needs attention

Fact: Once someone is sworn in as a legislator to the U.S. House of Representatives or the U.S. Senate, she or he is assigned to at least one committee. Most representatives in the House serve on only one or two committees, since there are 435 representatives to fill the 20 committees. In the 100 member Senate, all senators serve on at least two committees, and not more than four. There are 16 regular Senate committees. There are some special committees in each chamber and some joint committees, as well.

Fact: As a member of a committee, the legislator becomes an expert on the subject of the committee so that they can offer guidance to the other members of the Congress. One person cannot be an expert on everything! So, it is important to be able to listen to and trust the other members of Congress who are knowledgeable in their areas of expertise.

House Committees	Senate Committees
<p>Agriculture</p> <p>Appropriations</p> <p>Armed Services</p> <p>Budget</p> <p>Education and Labor</p> <p>Energy and Commerce</p> <p>Ethics</p> <p>Financial Services</p> <p>Foreign Affairs</p> <p>Homeland Security</p> <p>House Administration</p> <p>Judiciary</p> <p>Natural Resources</p> <p>Oversight and Reform</p> <p>Rules</p> <p>Science, Space, and Technology</p> <p>Small Business</p> <p>Transportation and Infrastructure</p> <p>Veterans' Affairs</p> <p>Ways and Means</p>	<p>Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry</p> <p>Appropriations</p> <p>Armed Services</p> <p>Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs</p> <p>Budget</p> <p>Commerce, Science, and Transportation</p> <p>Energy and Natural Resources</p> <p>Environment and Public Works</p> <p>Finance</p> <p>Foreign Relations</p> <p>Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions</p> <p>Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs</p> <p>Judiciary</p> <p>Rules and Administration</p> <p>Small Business and Entrepreneurship</p> <p>Veterans' Affairs</p> <p><i>Special and Select Committees</i></p> <p>Aging</p> <p>Ethics</p> <p>Indian Affairs</p> <p>Intelligence</p> <p>Senate Narcotics Caucus</p>

Go to the official website for the House of Representatives: www.house.gov Click on **Representatives**. Click on **M** for Maine.



What is the name of this Maine (ME) legislator?	Which district does this legislator serve?	In which political party does this legislator belong?	On which committees does this legislator serve?
Representative _____ _____	Circle which district this person serves: District 1 District 2	Circle the political party this person belongs to: Democrat Green Republican Independent Other	1. House Committee on _____ 2. House Committee on _____
Representative _____ _____	Circle which district this person serves: District 1 District 2	Circle the political party this person belongs to: Democrat Green Republican Independent Other	1. House Committee on _____ 2. House Committee on _____



Look at this map. It shows District 1 and District 2 for the State of Maine.

(See the circled 1 and 2 on the map.)

Put a dot where Wells is located and label it.

**You may need to Google where Wells is located so that you can put the dot in the right spot!*

You live in the Wells-Ogunquit area. So, which representative is representing you?

(Spell and capitalize your representative's name accurately.)

Go to the official website of the U.S. Senate www.senate.gov Click on **Senators** in the top left corner. Use the tool to choose a state and choose Maine. What are the names of our two senators?



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

Hint: If someone were a Democrat from Massachusetts, it would look like this:
 Person's Name - (D-MA)



What do those **political party initials** stand for?

R = _____ I = _____ ME = _____

Click on the **Susan Collins** name to bring you to her webpage. On the left, click on **About** and then on **About Senator Collins**. Scroll down to the photo of her in a blue suit. Just underneath the photo there is a list of committees that she serves on.

She will be expected to be an expert on these topics. Fill in the blanks:

- 1. Special Committee on _____
- 2. Committee on Appropriations
- 3. Committee on Health, _____, Labor, and Pensions
- 4. Select Committee on Intelligence

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:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| _____ 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 lower energy costs and combat climate change |
| _____ Energy and Natural Resources | d. how to make the Senate run smoothly, honestly, and openly (transparency) |