

# The Role of Congress in the American Government System

Congress is one of the three branches of the U.S. government. It is responsible for making laws, declaring war, and approving treaties. Congress is also responsible for overseeing the executive branch and the federal judiciary.



## Congress A to Z (American Government A to Z)

by Mark Goodale

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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The two houses of Congress are the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Senate has 100 members, two from each state. The House of Representatives has 435 members, who are elected from single-member districts. Members of the House of Representatives serve two-year terms, while senators serve six-year terms.

The process of passing a law in Congress is complex. A bill must be introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. If it is

approved by both houses, it is then sent to the president. The president can sign the bill into law, veto it, or allow it to become law without his signature.

Congress has a number of other important powers. It can impeach the president and other federal officials. It can also approve or reject treaties. Congress also has the power to declare war and to raise and maintain an army and navy.

Congress is a vital part of the American government system. It is responsible for making the laws that govern the country. It also has the power to check the power of the president and the federal judiciary.

## **The Powers of Congress**

Congress has a number of powers, including the power to:

- Make laws
- Declare war
- Approve treaties
- Impeach the president and other federal officials
- Raise and maintain an army and navy
- Oversee the executive branch and the federal judiciary

These powers give Congress a great deal of influence over the American government system.

## **The Importance of Congress**

Congress is an essential part of the American government system. It is responsible for making the laws that govern the country. It also has the power to check the power of the president and the federal judiciary.

Without Congress, the United States would be a very different country. It would be much more difficult to pass laws and to hold the president and the federal judiciary accountable.

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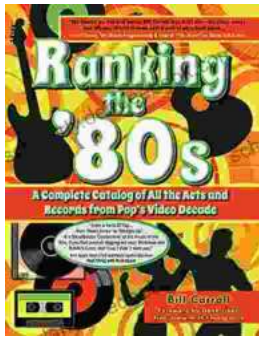
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