

Pork Barrel

Remand

Quorum

Rider

Reapportionment

Rule of Four

Redistricting

Rules Committee

Red Tape

Senatorial Courtesy

The Supreme Court's sending of a case back to the original court in which it was heard.

Wasteful congressional spending, e.g. funding for a Lawrence Welk museum in North Dakota.

Amendment to a bill that has little to do with that bill. Also known as a nongermane amendment.

Minimum number of members needed for the House or Senate to meet.

The supreme court will hear a case if four justices agree to do so.

Reallocation of House seats to the states on the basis of changes in state populations, as determined by the census.

The "traffic cop" of the house that sets the legislative calendar and issues rules for debate on a bill.

Redrawing of congressional district boundaries by the party in power of the state legislature.

Tradition in which the President consults with the senators within a state in which an appointment is to be made.

Complex rules and procedures required by bureaucratic agencies.

Seniority System

Ways and Means Committee

Spoils System

Whistleblower

Standing committees

Writ of Certiorari

Stare Decisis

Writ of Habeas Corpus

Sunset Laws

Writ of Mandamus

House committee that handles tax bills.

Tradition in which the senator from the majority party with the most years of service on a committee becomes the chairman of that committee.

An employee who exposes unethical or illegal conduct within the federal government or one of its contractors.

Same as patronage.

Issued by the Supreme Court to a lower court to send up the records of a case so that it can be reviewed by the high court.

The permanent congressional committees that handle legislation.

Court order that the authorities show cause for why they are holding a prisoner in custody. Deters unlawful imprisonment.

Latin for "let the decision stand." Supreme Court policy of following precedent in deciding cases.

Court order directing a party to perform a certain action.

Laws that automatically expire after a given time.

