The Job

What Congress
Does on a Daily
Basis and other
Assorted Bits of
Information



The Job – What do they do?

1. Legislate

- Write, debate, and vote on bills to make laws
- Very little of this work happens on the floor.
- Most happens in committee/subcommittee

2. Serve on Committees

- Screen proposed bills and hear testimony from experts and interest groups
- Oversee executive agencies the "Congressional oversight function"
- More on committees later...

The Job – What do they do?

3. Serve/represent constituents

- Reflect the interests of the people back home (constituents)
- Help constituents solve problems they may have with the bureaucracy
- 4. Support their Party's agenda
 - But they weigh delegate, trustee, partisan obligations
- 5. Get re-elected. © Raise funds.

Compensation and Perks

Pay

- Speaker -- \$223,500
- Minority/Majority Leaders -- \$193,400
- President Pro Tempore -- \$193,400
- House/Senate members -- \$174,000

Compensation and Perks

Perks

- Travel allowance to go back to home district
- Great Medical Plan
- Office space in DC and allowance for office space back home
- Staff allowance
- Free parking at the Capitol and major airports

Compensation and Perks

Perks Continued

