Federal and State Legislative Bodies

**Federal Congress**
- Congress Pennsylvania delegation
- 18 Congressional Districts
- All up for election every even numbered year
- 2 Senators at large: Sen. Toomey & Sen. Casey

**State General Assembly**
- Pennsylvania General Assembly
- 203 Districts – 2 year term
- 50 Senate Districts - 4-year terms
- Odd-numbered districts up for election in 2018; Even-numbered districts up for election in 2020

Understanding the Process of How a Bill Becomes Law in Pennsylvania

Bill introduced & referred to Committee
Reported out of Committee
Reported out to the House (or Senate) Floor
Re-referred to Appropriations Committee
Reported out to House (or Senate) Floor
Other chamber; Same process
Concurrence vote in chamber of origin
Conference committee, if that chamber non-concurs
Governor

Same bill must pass both chambers within the same two-year session. Can be amended anywhere in the process.

Majority party leadership controls agenda (Republicans in both House (121-82) and Senate (34-16).

Role of the committee chair
- public hearings
- bringing bill up for consideration (debate and vote)
- need for bipartisan support
- most bills die in committee, never acted on