

House:

Speaker

Majority Leader

Majority Whip

Minority Leader

Minority Whip

Senate:

President of the Senate

Majority Leader

Majority Whip

President Pro Tempore

Minority Leader

Minority Whip

Majority Party controls the most significant leadership positions

House-Speaker of the House

- Allows people to speak on the floor

- Assigns bills to committees

- Influences which bills are brought to a vote

- Appoints members of special and select committees

Senate-Majority Leader

- Schedules Senate business

- Priorities bills

Elections

House members directly elected

Senators directly elected after 17th amendment

House incumbent advantage - Why?

- Name recognition

- Proven track record

- Franking Privileges - free mailing

Malapportionment

Unequal population in districts

Wesberry v. Sanders (1963) - found unequal district population unconstitutional (14th amnd.)

Gerrymandering

District boundaries are redrawn in strange ways to make it easy for candidates of one party to win

Easley v. Cromartie- redistricting was not unconstitutional