**Make a Law Activity**

**Objectives**

The students will write, revise, and create a bill which will be voted on by the student congress.

The students will work collaboratively and respectfully while creating their proposed law.

**Procedure**

Each student will write down an idea they have for a federal law. Students may work with a partner if they choose to.

The students (or the teacher) will read their proposals to the class.

After each idea has been formulated, the students will vote for three bills.

The three bills which received the most votes will be voted on again, with one winner. This bill will be rewritten, revised, or killed.

The teacher divides the students into two groups; Senators and representatives. Use a ratio of 4.35 to 1 to create a Senate and a House of Representatives.

Depending on which student authored the bill, (Senate or House) that house will begin deliberating on the bill.

Only one student may speak at a time. This is accomplished by passing an object around (like a microphone).

One the students in the first house have made all the agreed upon changes or amendments to the bill, it passes to the other students in the other house.

The bill may need to go back to the original house if any changes/amendments have been made.

Once the bill has been reconciled by both houses, each house votes on the bill as written.

If the bill passes both houses, it goes to the president (teacher) for his/her signature or veto.

If the bill is vetoed, both houses may revote on the bill in order to override the veto. 2/3 of each house must vote for the override.