**Congressional Committees Webquest**

**Assignment Overview:** Your main goal in this assignment is to discover how committees influence the lawmaking process. Additionally, you will research the roles of the more powerful Congressional Committees.

**I. Role & Importance of Congressional Committees:**

1. Using this [link](http://www.opensecrets.org/cmteprofiles/index.php), summarize why it is important for Americans to know about the workings of Congressional committees.

2. Watch this [video](http://congress.indiana.edu/committees). Describe what the legislative process would be like if there were no Congressional committees.

3. Why would a bank be more likely to donate campaign contributions to a congressional representative on the banking committee?

**II. Learning about the Powerful Congressional Committees:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Committee | Succinctly Describe the Committee’s Jurisdiction | List the current Chairperson & Ranking Member from the Minority Party | How many Subcommittees are currently in the committee? | Evaluate why this committee is considered a ‘powerful’ committee |
| House [Ways & Means](http://waysandmeans.house.gov/) |  |  |  |  |
| House [Rules](http://rules.house.gov/) |  |  |  |  |
| House [Appropriations](http://appropriations.house.gov/) |  |  |  |  |
| Senate [Judiciary](http://www.judiciary.senate.gov/) |  |  |  |  |
| Senate [Foreign Relations](http://www.foreign.senate.gov/) |  |  |  |  |
| Senate [Appropriations](http://www.appropriations.senate.gov/) |  |  |  |  |