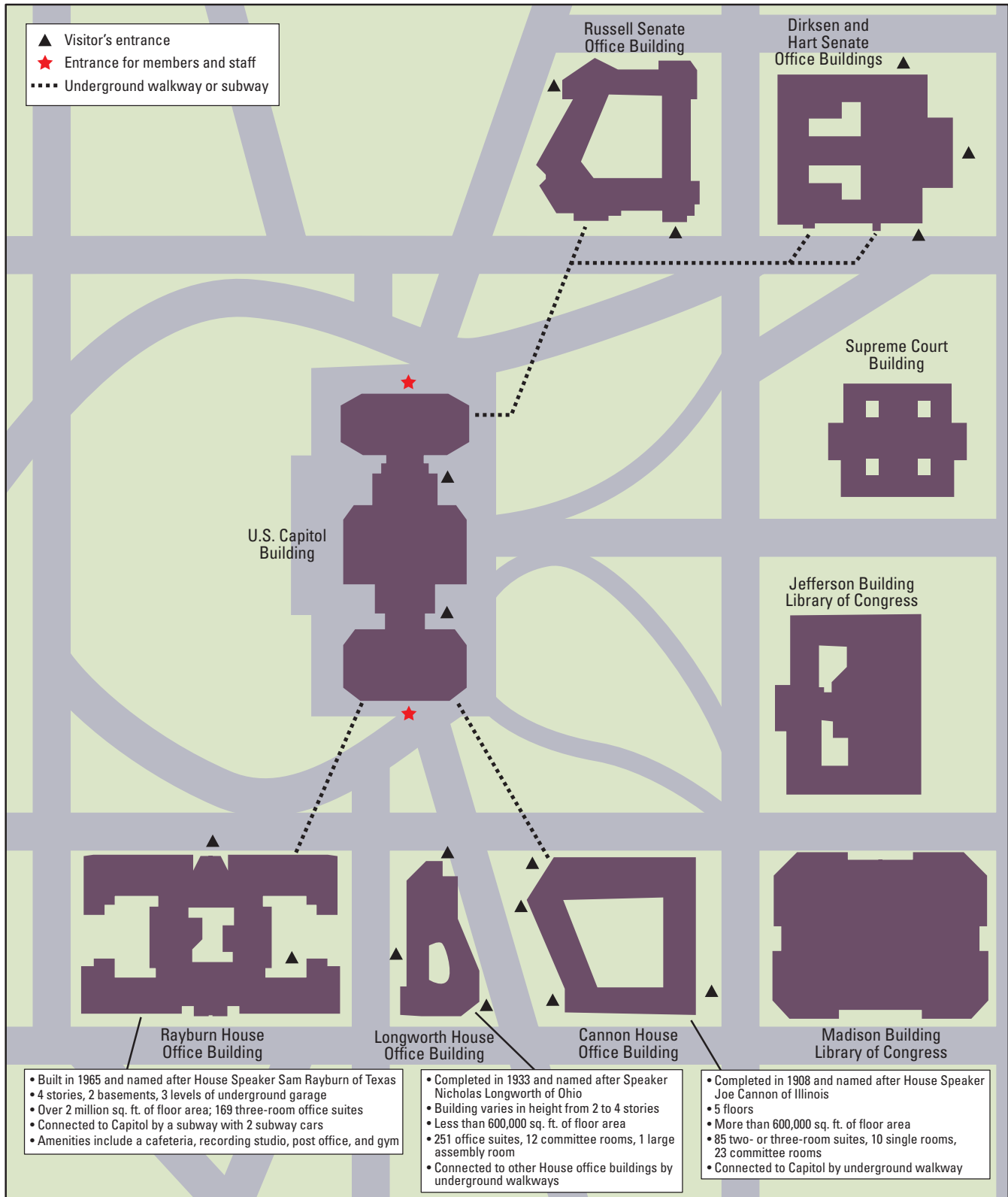


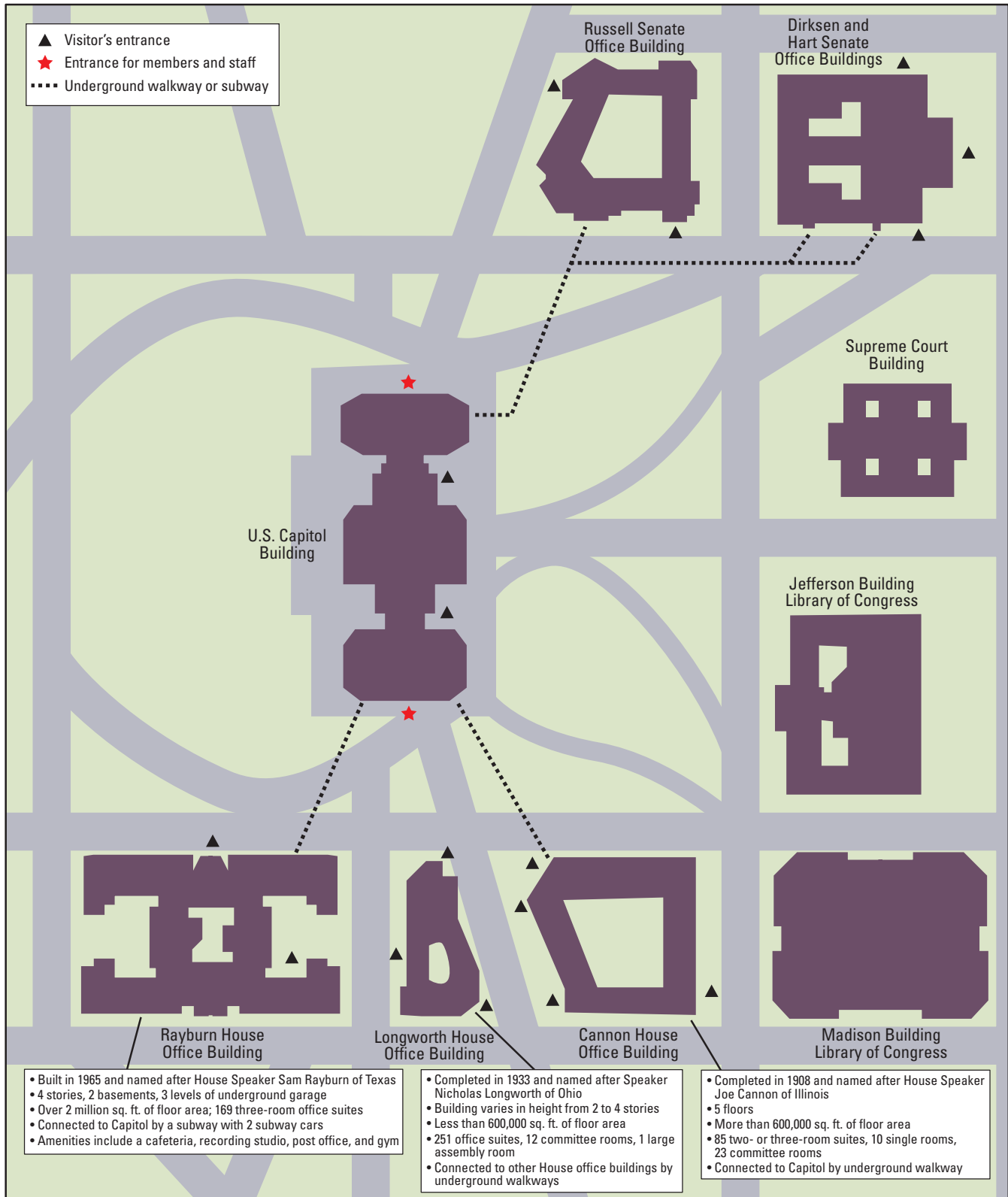
# Selecting Congressional Office Space

## Capitol Hill



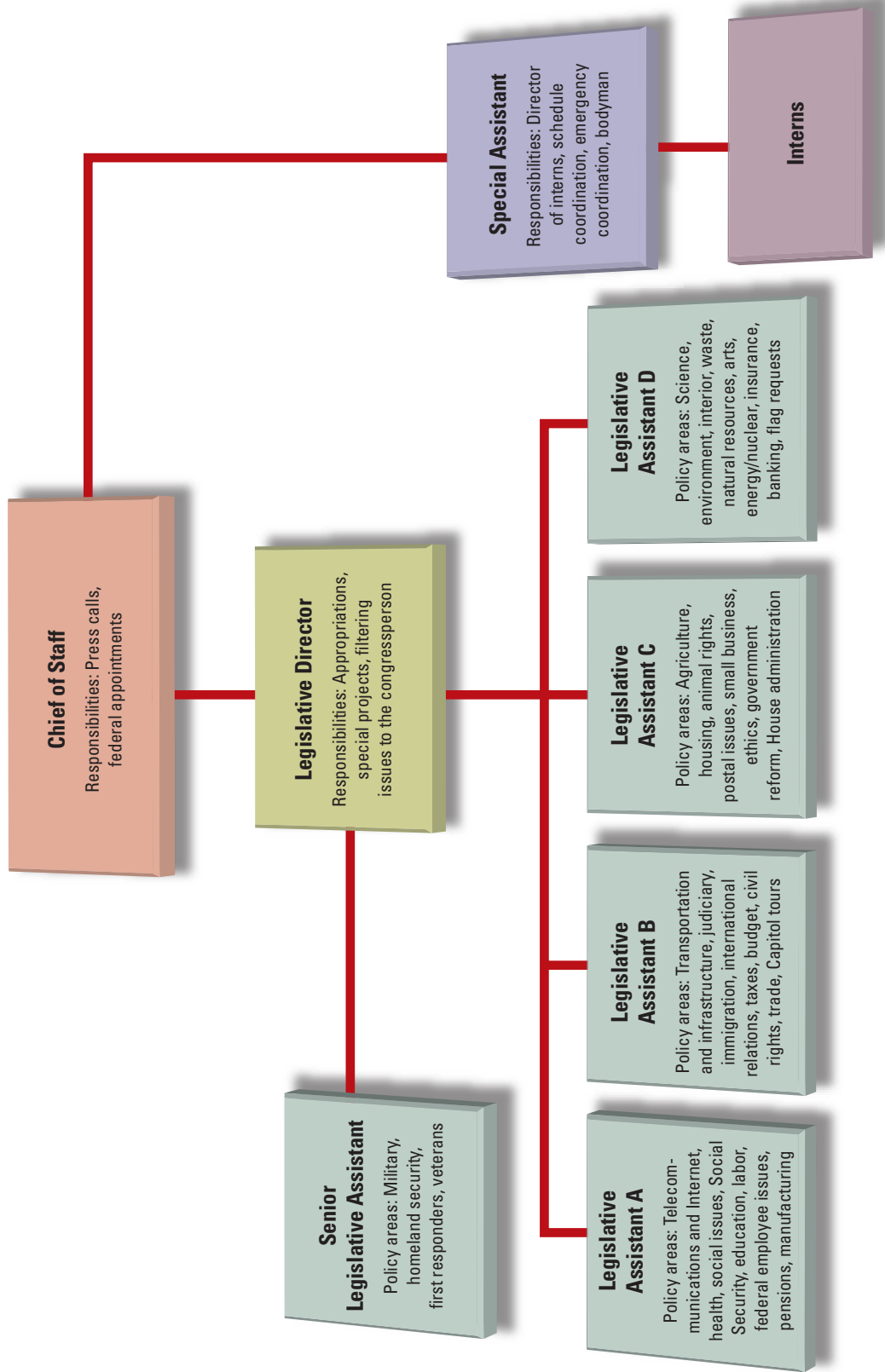
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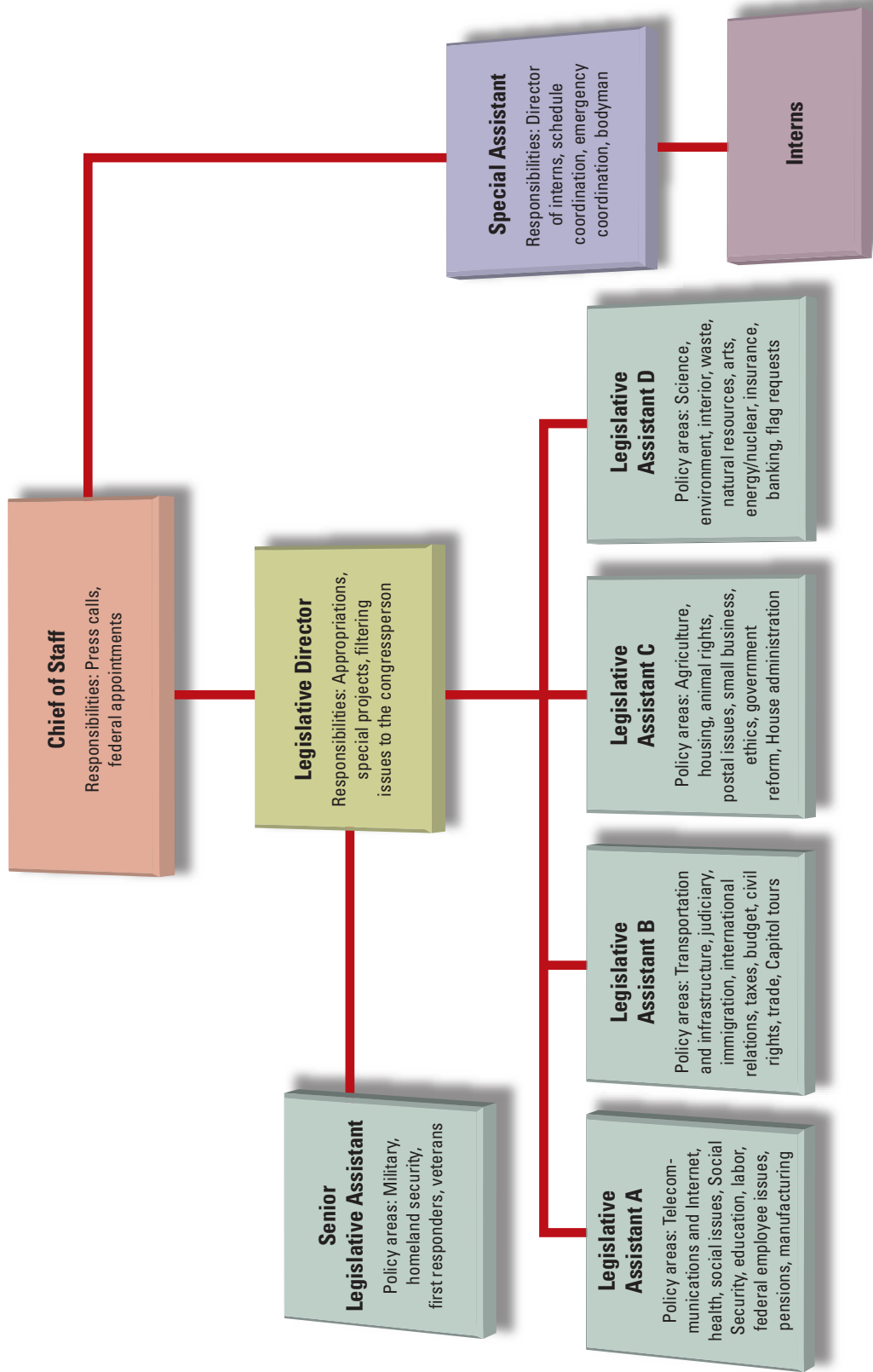
# Hiring Congressional Staff

Organizational Chart for a Typical Congressperson's Washington, D.C., Office



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Organizational Chart for a Typical Congressperson's Washington, D.C., Office



# Requesting Committee Assignments



## Standing Committees of the U.S. House of Representatives

### Exclusive Committees

Members typically may not serve on any other committees.

- **Appropriations**  
This committee decides how the federal government sets its expenditures.
- **Energy and Commerce\***  
This committee oversees operations related to public health, energy, and interstate and foreign commerce.
- **Rules**  
This committee determines rules for the House to debate and vote on a bill.
- **Ways and Means**  
This committee handles legislation related to taxes, tariffs, and welfare programs.

\* For Republicans, this is considered an exclusive committee.

### Major Committees

Members typically serve on only one major committee.

- **Agriculture**
- **Armed Services**
- **Education and Labor**
- **Energy and Commerce\*\***
- **Financial Services**
- **Foreign Affairs**
- **Judiciary**
- **Transportation and Infrastructure**

\*\* For Democrats, this is considered a major committee.

### Nonmajor Committees

Members typically serve on one or two nonmajor committees.

- **Budget**
- **Homeland Security**
- **House Administration**
- **Natural Resources**
- **Oversight and Government Reform**
- **Science and Technology**
- **Small Business**
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## Choosing and Working in Caucuses

### **The Blue Dog Coalition**

The Blue Dog Coalition is a caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives comprised of fiscally conservative Democrats who are deeply committed to the financial stability and national security of the United States and dedicated to finding bipartisan solutions to the nation's biggest challenges.

### **House Tea Party Caucus**

The Tea Party Caucus is issue-based in nature, promoting the principles of fiscal responsibility, limited government and a strict adherence to the Constitution. The Tea Party movement is synonymous with these principles, and members of this caucus are working in Congress to apply and advance them.

### **Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth**

This caucus examines reforming the child welfare system. The current system's primary focus is on families already identified as child abuse and/or neglect cases. In other instances, removal is not the only answer, and more should be done to help strengthen families. The caucus's ultimate goal is to reduce the number of children in care.

### **Congressional China Caucus**

The Congressional China Caucus is a bipartisan group of members of Congress who share a common interest in the emergence of China as a political, economic and military actor on both the regional and global stage. The primary purpose of the caucus is to educate its members on issues pertaining to China and Chinese interests and serve as a forum for discussion of such issues. This caucus seeks to investigate China's global reach and the consequences of its growing international, economic, and political influence on U.S. interests.

### **Congressional Diabetes Caucus**

The mission of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus is to educate members of Congress and staff about diabetes and to support legislative activities that would improve diabetes research, education, and treatment. The Congressional Diabetes Caucus was founded in 1996 and has grown to be one of the largest and most influential member organizations on Capitol Hill.

### **Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus**

The Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus (CTTC) was founded in 1979, and from the very beginning, members of the House recognized the economic importance of travel and tourism within their communities and the vital need for a congressional advocacy organization to support this multi-faceted industry in Congress. The caucus's mission is to formulate national policy that promotes travel to and within the United States.

### **Congressional Bike Caucus**

This caucus seeks to provide Congressional leadership in complementing the efforts of the millions of cyclists actively working for safer roads, more bikeways, convenient bike parking, and increased recognition of the importance of cycling for transportation and recreation.

### **House of Representatives Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition**

The purpose of the House of Representatives Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition is to advance policies that promote clean energy technology innovation and domestic manufacturing, develop renewable energy resources, and create green collar jobs throughout the product supply-chain. The coalition also seeks to advance policies to help arrest global warming and protect our nation's clean air, water, and natural environment.

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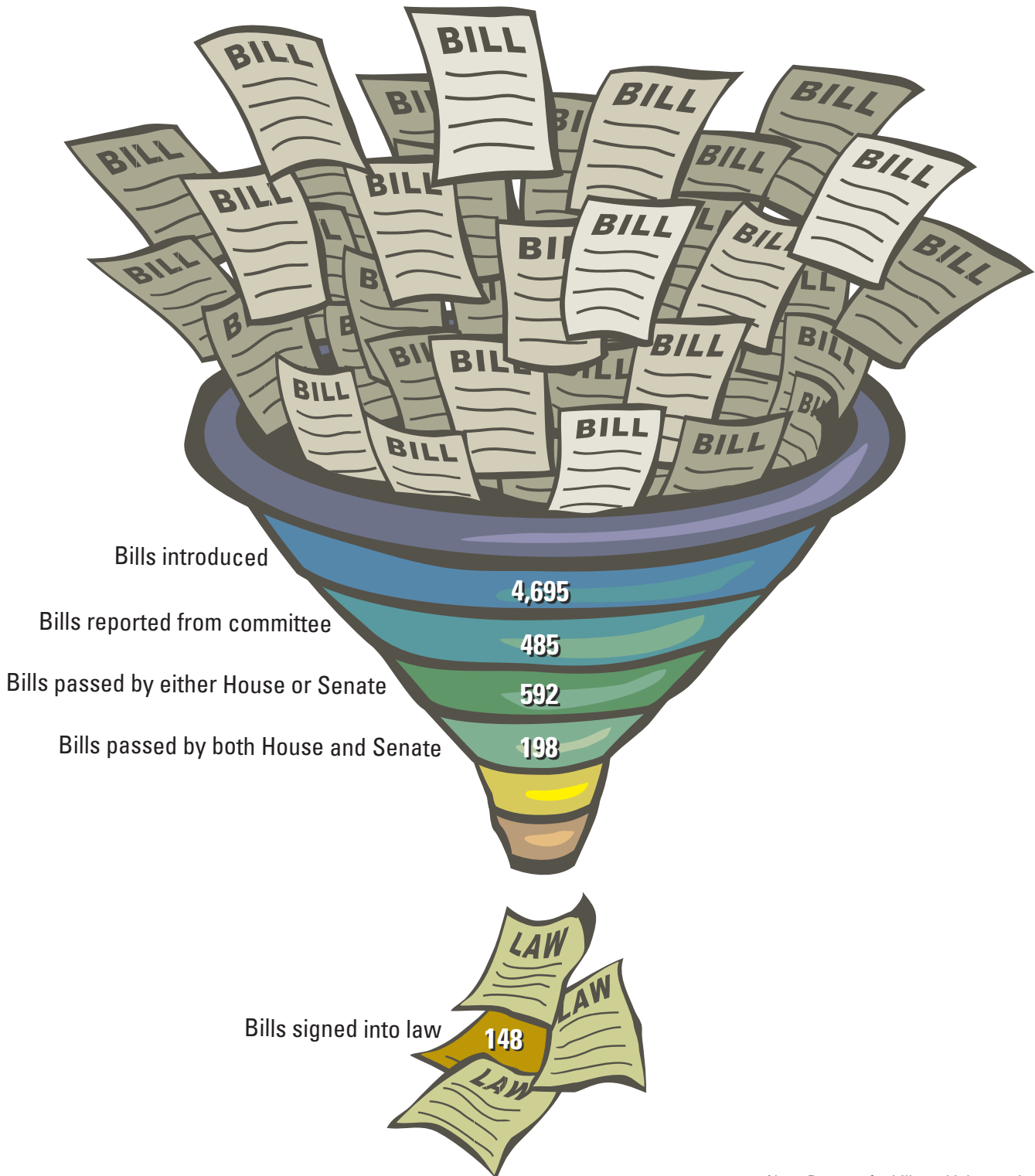
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# Working on Legislation

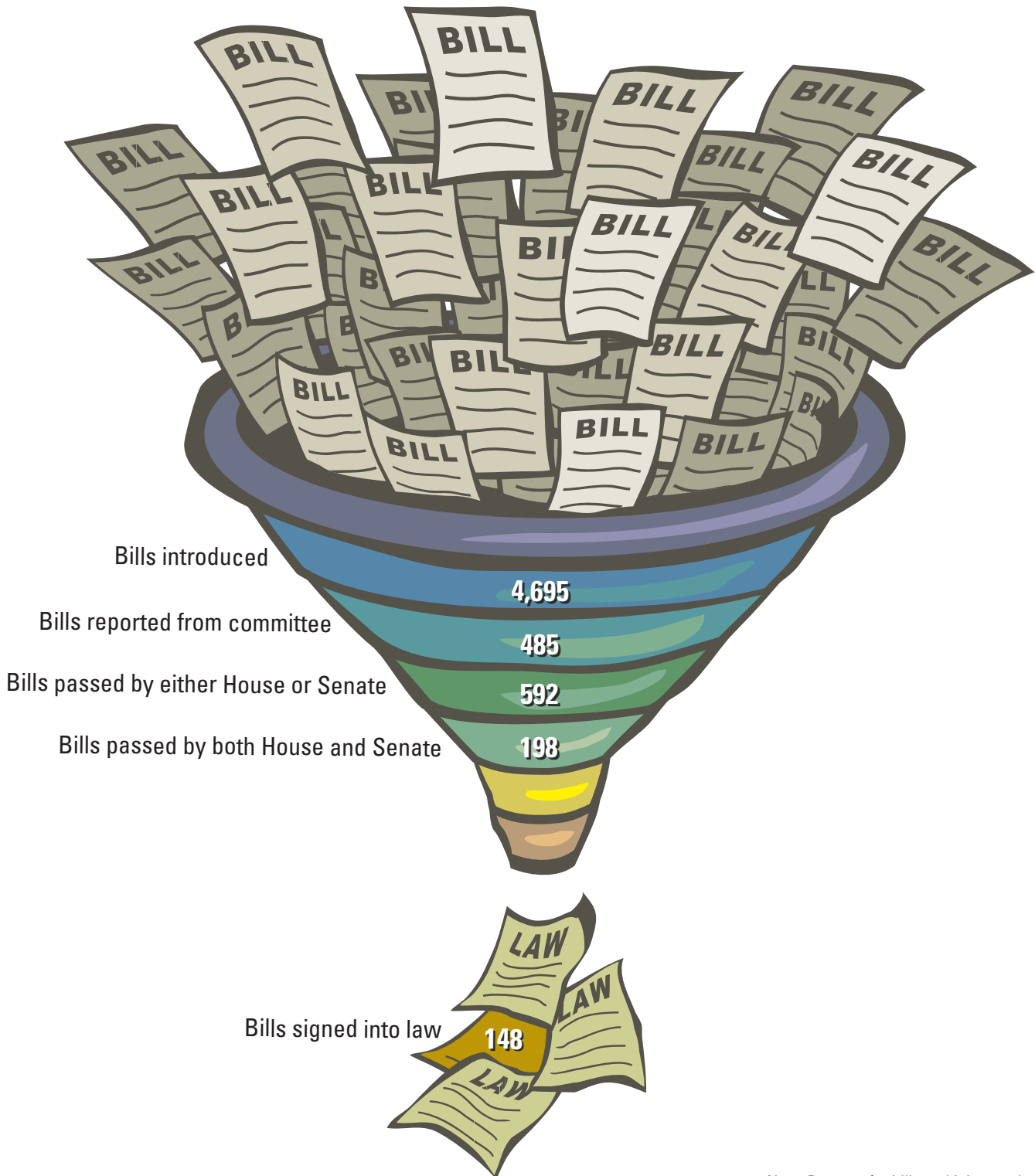
## How Many Bills Become Laws 112th Congress, Second Session, 2012



Note: Data are for bills and joint resolutions.

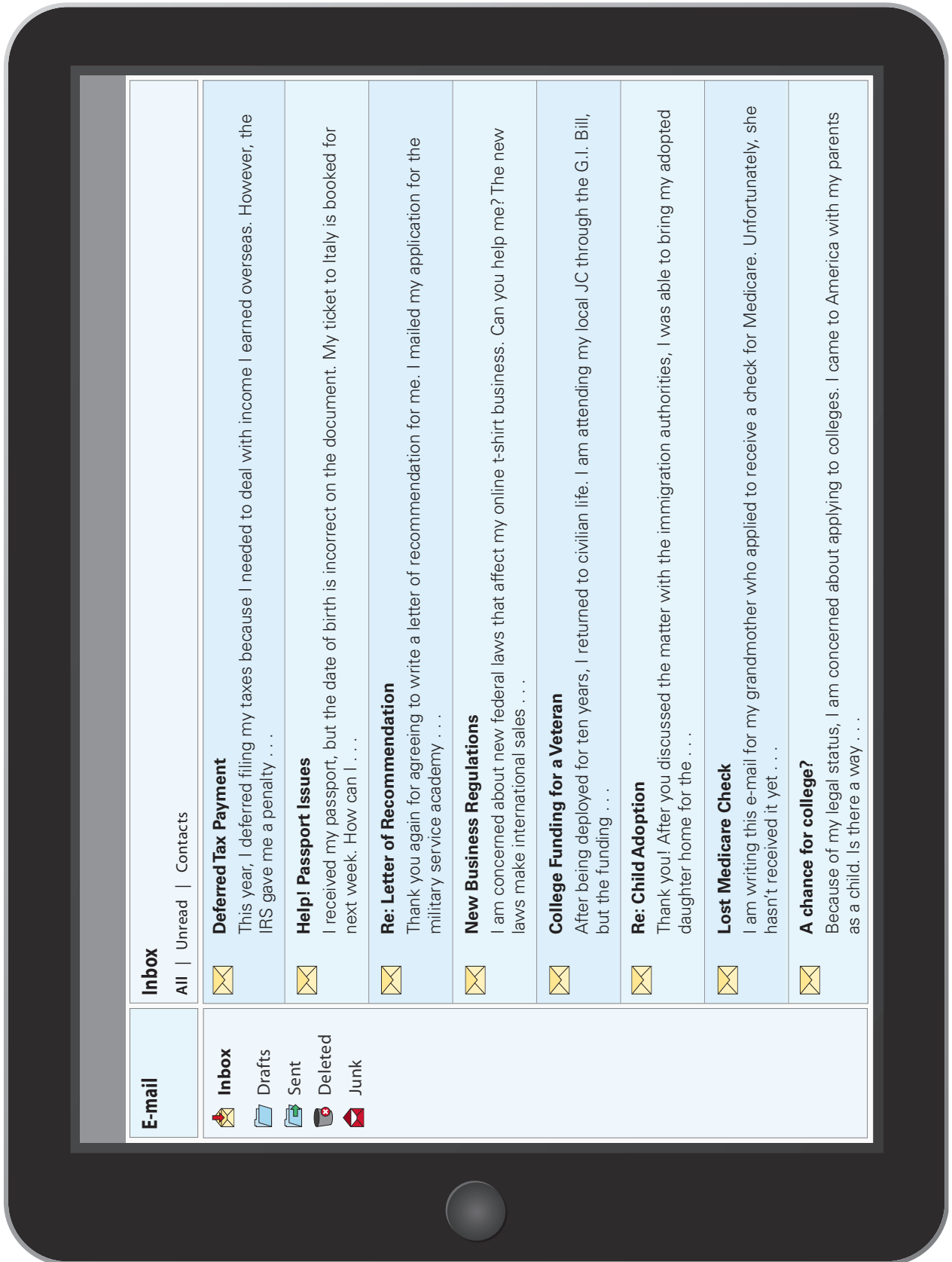
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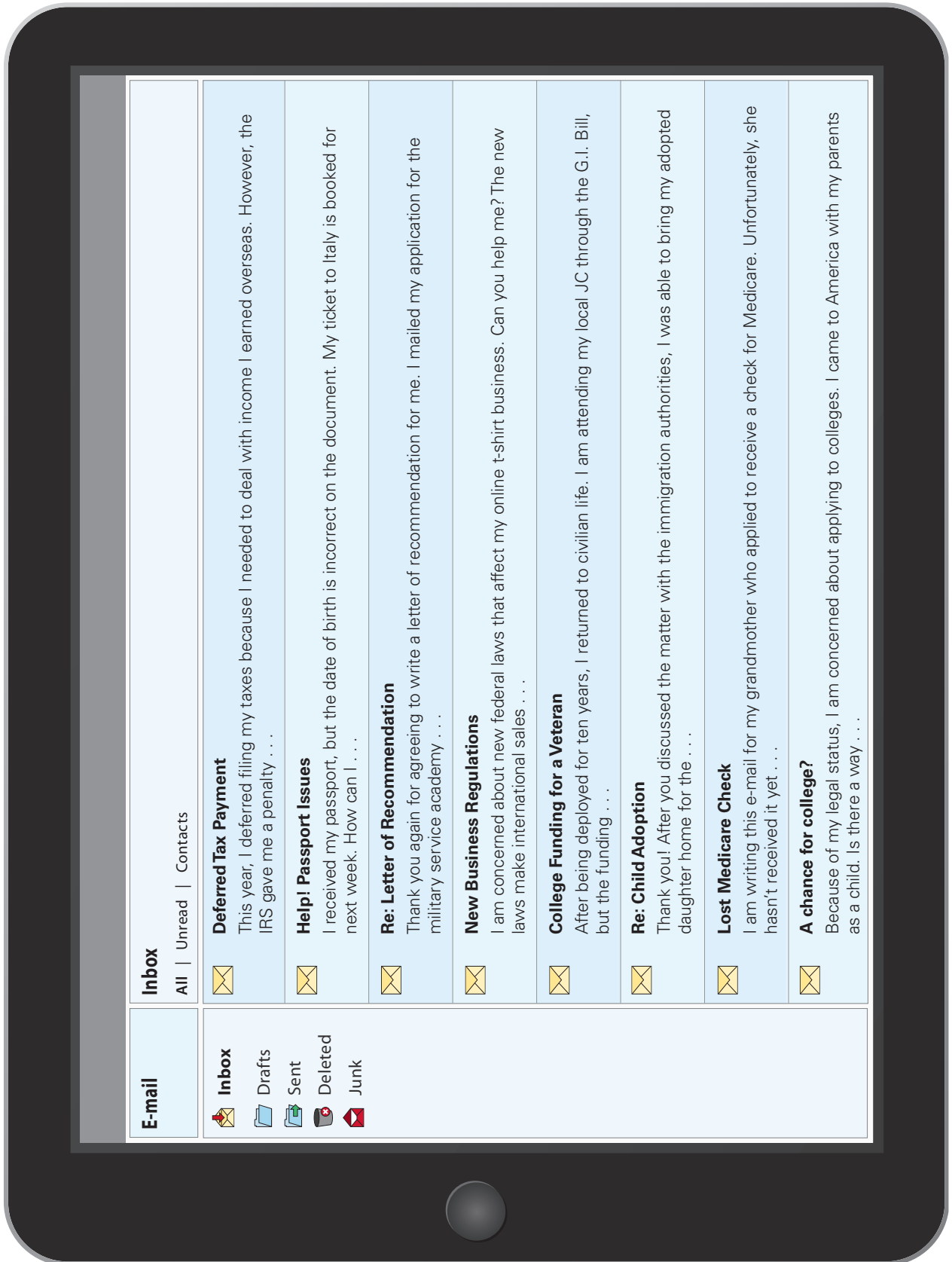


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# Doing Constituent Casework



# Doing Constituent Casework



# Protecting the Interests of the District



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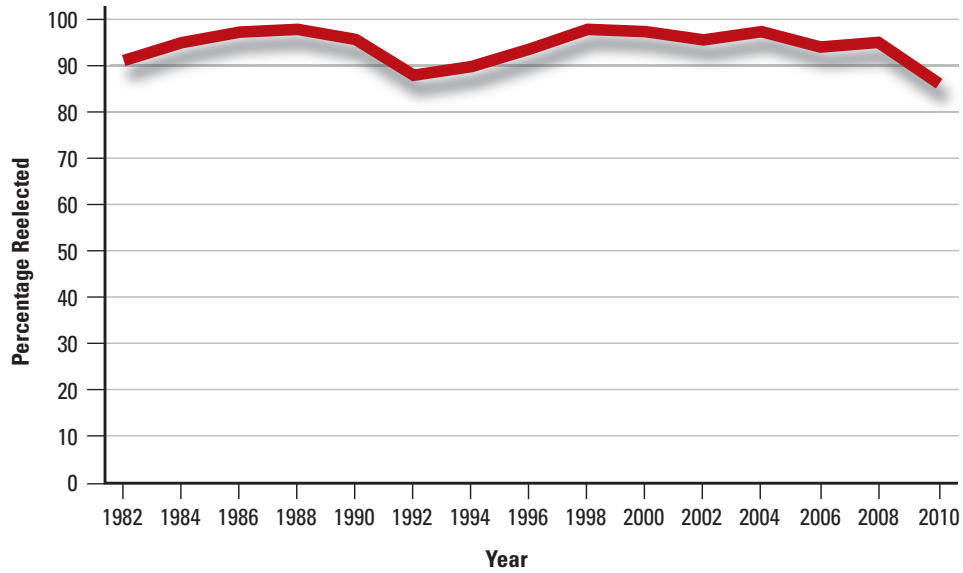
Protecting the Interests of the District



# Running for Reelection

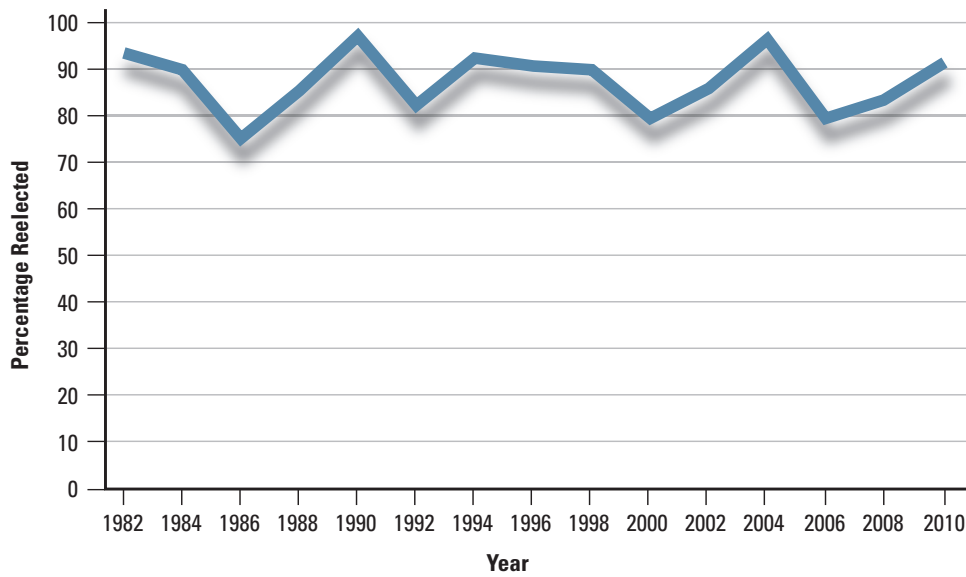
## Incumbents Reelected, 1982–2010

### House of Representatives



## Incumbents Reelected, 1982–2010

### Senate

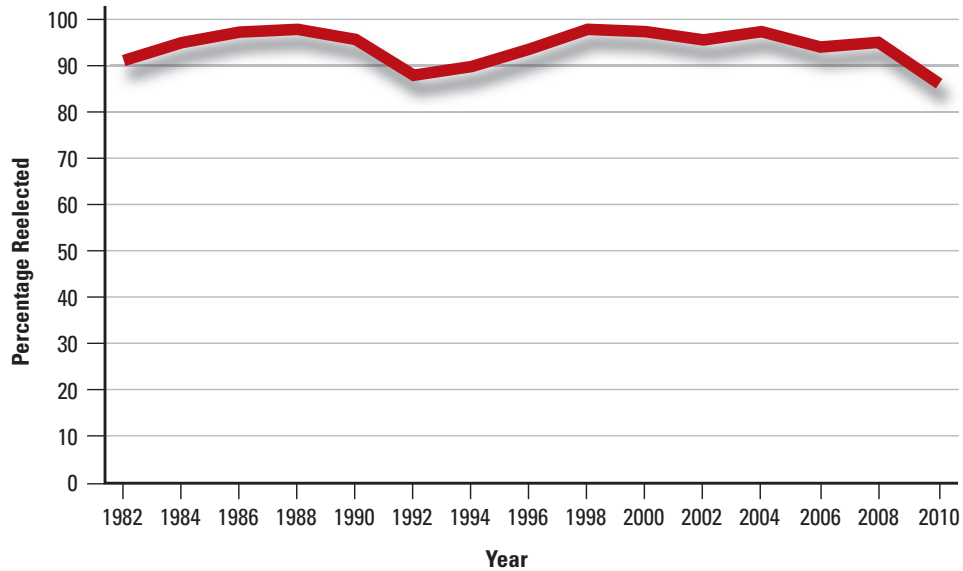


Source: Harold W. Stanley and Richard G. Niemi, *Vital Statistics on American Politics 2011-2012*, Los Angeles: CQ Press, 2011.

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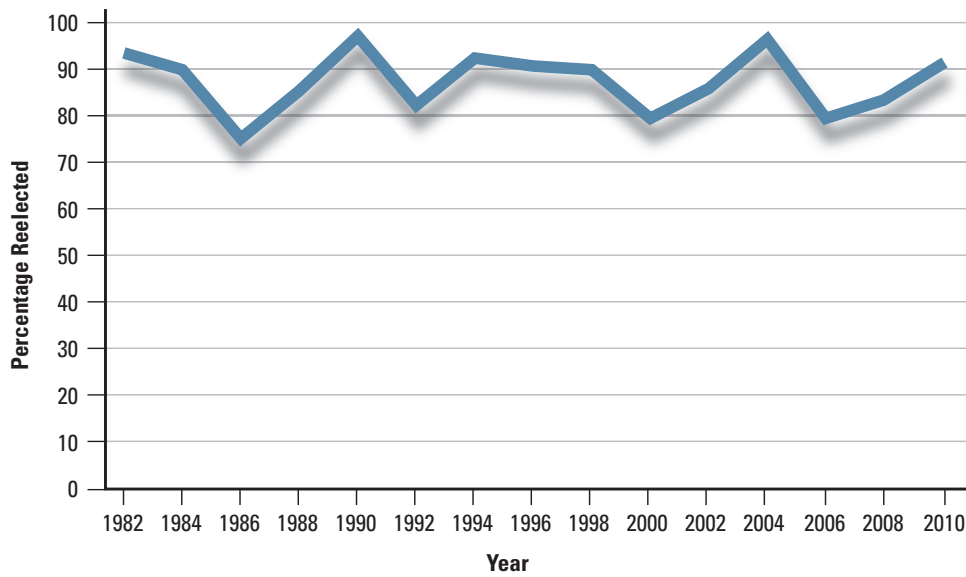
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