

## **Special Committee Procedures on Congress Voting**

### **Resolutions**

We are looking for resolutions, not directives. These resolutions can be shorter-form to address certain issues. More than one resolution can be passed for each topic, although conflicting resolutions cannot both pass.

### **Bicameral Voting**

All bills (resolutions) must pass through both the House and Senate. If both the House and Senate do not pass a bill, it fails. The chamber with more sponsors/co-sponsors on the bill will vote on it first, minus any budgetary matters, which the House will vote on first.

You can solicit co-sponsors and sponsors within the same house or across chambers, unlike in the real-world congress.

### **Senate Filibuster**

On measures pertaining to healthcare or foreign policy, cloture must be invoked to ensure passage, meaning that 60% of delegates in the Senate must vote in favor of healthcare or foreign policy/security bills to ensure their passage. Economic stimulus and spending bills will only require a 50%+1 vote of the Senate to pass, given their simple majority passage through the House as well.

### **Presidential Veto**

The President (Chair) may exercise his right to veto passed legislation, forcing it to return to Congress for a 2/3 veto override and changes made. This is not a common occurrence but may happen if a bill goes against President Obama's 2008 platform.

### **Q&A**

At times throughout the committee, outside experts may enter the session to inform delegates about new developments or answer questions about the topics at hand.

### **Terminology**

Sponsors are the same as sponsors of a normal resolution. For our purposes, instead of calling signatories as such, they shall be known as cosponsors, to better reflect Congressional terminology.

## **Realism**

Please ensure that you're well researched on the nuance of your character's positions both in relation to the potential ideas as well as within their party. Characters were specially selected based on importance in Congress, specific key actors relating to the topics, and to reflect ideological diversity within parties. You will notice that there are Blue Dog Democrats, progressive Democrats, moderate Republicans, libertarians, and many other factions represented. Being well researched on your character will be an important part of award-determination in the committee.