## Chapter 1: American Government and Citizenship

## My Representatives and Leaders in the Federal Government

In 1787, the framers of the Constitution of the United States organized a government in which no single person or group would have absolute power. The national government was divided into three parts, or branches. In this lesson, you will learn who represents you in the federal government. You will also learn about how to vote when that right falls to you.

Instructions: Click on the links below to find information needed to complete each item.
Part I: Leaders in the Federal Government
The Three Branches of Federal Government

|  | Executive <br> https://www.whitehouse.gov | Legislative | Judicial <br> https://www.supremecourt.gov |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | President | House of <br> Representatives <br> https://www.house.gov | Chief Justice |
| (note: use your Zip <br> Code to find your <br> representative) |  |  |  |
| Current <br> leader(s)... | Vice President | Senate: <br> https://www.senate.gov |  |
| (note: use the "Find <br> Your Senators" link) |  |  |  |
| What is the <br> address to <br> write a <br> letter to this <br> government <br> official? |  | Sepresentative: |  |
| Senator: |  |  |  |

## Part II: Voting in West Virginia

What do you need to do in order to vote? Use the link below from the West Virginia Secretary of State's office. This link explains what West Virginians must do to vote.

## https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/VoterRegistration.aspx

1. Besides being 18 on Election Day, what are two other qualifications for you to vote in West Virginia?
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2. When you turn 18 , you will have several choices of how to register to vote. Which one do you think you will choose? Explain your choice.
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3. Where can you find out where you actually go in order to vote?
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4. What are the hours in which you can vote on your first Election Day?
5. When you vote for the first time, you must carry identification. Which of the options do you think you will use? Explain your choice.
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6. Check the GoVoteWV link. Locate and list three conditions that could keep a West Virginian from being able to exercise their right to vote.
