

TABLE 6.1

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE

Differences	House	Senate
Constitutional		
Term length	2 years	6 years
Minimum age	25	30
Citizenship required	7 years	9 years
Residency	In state	In state
Apportionment	Changes with population	Fixed; entire state
Impeachment	Impeaches official	Tries the impeached official
Treaty-making power	No authority	2/3 approval
Presidential appointments	No authority	Majority approval
Organizational		
Size	435 members	100 members
Number of standing committees	23	16
Total committee assignments per member	Approx. 6	Approx. 11
Rules Committee	Yes	No
Limits on floor debate	Yes	No (filibuster possible)
Electoral, 2012		
Average winners spent	\$1,567,379	\$11,474,362
Average losers spent	\$540,022	\$7,434,819
Most expensive campaign	\$21,197,801	\$49,496,249
Incumbency advantage	90% reelected (92.8% 54-year average)	91% reelected (81.7% 54-year average)

Sources: Roger H. Davidson, Walter J. Oleszek, and Frances E. Lee, *Congress and Its Members*, 13th ed. (Washington, D.C.: CQ Press, 2012), 44, 187; Federal Election Commission data compiled by the Center for Responsive Politics, "Election Stats 2010," www.opensecrets.org/bigpicture/elec_stats.php?cycle=2010.