

## GUIDED READING

### South Carolina: **Our History, Our Home**

#### Chapter 2: The Government of South Carolina

##### Section 1 South Carolina Government Today

**Directions:** Use the information from pages 41 - 52 to complete the following.

1. The chief function of the \_\_\_\_\_ in the Legislative Branch of the government is to make \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Also it is the only state-level body that can levy taxes, fees, and fines to raise \_\_\_\_\_ (operating funds for the government) and can \_\_\_\_\_ the spending of that money.
3. To be elected to the House of \_\_\_\_\_ [a part of the General Assembly], one only has to be \_\_\_\_\_ years of age.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ [a part of the General Assembly] have to be \_\_\_\_\_ years of age.
5. The House has \_\_\_\_\_ member from each of the 124 districts across the state; the member represents for a \_\_\_\_\_-year term.
6. A senator is elected from 1 of 46 districts and \_\_\_\_\_ about 100,552 people for a \_\_\_\_\_-year term.
7. Both houses [in the General Assembly] do most of their work in \_\_\_\_\_.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ are chosen for committees largely on the basis of their choice, \_\_\_\_\_ (length of service), and political party.
9. The Senate also elects a \_\_\_\_\_ (president for the time being), usually the leader of the majority [political] party.

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10. The House of Representatives elects a \_\_\_\_\_, the leader of the majority party in that chamber.
11. When a legislator submits a \_\_\_\_\_ for consideration for it to become a law it may take as many as \_\_\_\_\_ steps before it can become a law. (See Figure 3)
12. If both houses vote to accept the bill it goes to the \_\_\_\_\_ for his signature and a new law has been made.
13. The General Assembly elects most of the \_\_\_\_\_ in the state and it appoints hundreds of persons to boards and \_\_\_\_\_.
14. One of the key duties of the General Assembly is to follow up on the acts it has \_\_\_\_\_ to make sure state agencies are carrying out the intent of the law and \_\_\_\_\_ money properly.
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ role in the Executive Branch is to carry out the \_\_\_\_\_ passed by the General Assembly, to maintain \_\_\_\_\_, and to be the \_\_\_\_\_ for the state.
16. If for any reason the governor cannot perform the duties of office, the \_\_\_\_\_ becomes the governor.
17. The governor's formal powers include him/her being able to submit an executive \_\_\_\_\_ every year for consideration.
18. Another example of a formal power that has increased the governor's influence is in the area of \_\_\_\_\_ management.
19. The governor also has the formal power of \_\_\_\_\_ over acts passed by the General Assembly.

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20. The least well-known of the three " \_\_\_\_\_ " branches of our state government is the \_\_\_\_\_ branch.
21. The \_\_\_\_\_ Courts (the lowest level of county courts) handle over half of all the cases in the state.
22. A person accused of a serious \_\_\_\_\_ will be brought before a magistrate for a \_\_\_\_\_ hearing. The magistrate will decide whether there is \_\_\_\_\_ (a reasonable expectation that evidence will be found) to justify sending the accused before a grand \_\_\_\_\_, which will determine whether the person should go to \_\_\_\_\_.
23. \_\_\_\_\_ Courts are courts established by town and cities. Municipal judges deal with cases similar to the Magistrate Courts, except they do not try \_\_\_\_\_ cases.
24. \_\_\_\_\_ Courts are courts that deal primarily with \_\_\_\_\_ and estates.
25. \_\_\_\_\_ Courts deal with \_\_\_\_\_, child \_\_\_\_\_, visitation rights, alimony, property settlements, and termination of \_\_\_\_\_ rights.
26. The \_\_\_\_\_ Court hears both \_\_\_\_\_ and civil cases.
27. The South Carolina Court of \_\_\_\_\_ does not try cases but hears \_\_\_\_\_ from the decisions of the Circuit and Family Courts.
28. The \_\_\_\_\_ Court is the \_\_\_\_\_ appeals court in the state.