

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **GUIDED READING**

### **Georgia Its Heritage and Its Promise**

#### **Chapter 3: Georgia's Legislative Branch**

##### **Section 1 Membership of the General Assembly**

**Directions:** Use the information from pages 72 - 75 to complete the following.

1. The General Assembly is the \_\_\_\_\_ body for the state of Georgia.
2. It was formed in 1777 and thus is older than the United States \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Georgia has a \_\_\_\_\_ (two-house) body, consisting of a House of \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The House of Representatives has \_\_\_\_\_ members; the senate has \_\_\_\_\_ members.
5. At the time of election, a \_\_\_\_\_ must be at least twenty-five years old to serve in Georgia's \_\_\_\_\_. The minimum age for serving in the \_\_\_\_\_ is twenty-one.
6. Each legislator must be a U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ and a citizen of \_\_\_\_\_ for at least \_\_\_\_\_ years. Each must also have been a legal resident in the district he or she \_\_\_\_\_ for at least one year.
7. House members and senators serve \_\_\_\_\_-year terms of office.
8. Each seat of the Georgia House represents about the same \_\_\_\_\_ of constituents.
9. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a person in a legislator's district.

10. Seats in the General Assembly represent \_\_\_\_\_, not land characteristics such as mountain ranges, coastal regions, or rivers.
11. Deciding how many constituents are represented in each district is handled through a mathematical step called \_\_\_\_\_ [based on Georgia's population].
12. The state's population is determined by the \_\_\_\_\_ (the official count of the population) of the United States which is conducted every \_\_\_\_\_ years (2010, 2020, and so on).
13. Therefore, every ten years the Georgia legislature \_\_\_\_\_, that is, it is redraws the \_\_\_\_\_ of the voting districts to account for population changes.
14. A session of the General Assembly is limited to \_\_\_\_\_ days. It begins on the second Monday in \_\_\_\_\_ and ends sometime around the end of \_\_\_\_\_.

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### Georgia Its Heritage and Its Promise

#### Chapter 3: Georgia's Legislative Branch

##### Section 2 The Organization of the General Assembly

Directions: Use the information from pages 76 - 78 to complete the following.

1. For members of Georgia's Senate and House of Representatives to do their \_\_\_\_\_ properly, there must be some form of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The presiding officer for the House of Representatives is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, who is \_\_\_\_\_ by the members of that chamber.
3. The leader of the senate is the \_\_\_\_\_ governor. The Georgia Constitution gives the lieutenant governor the title of \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The chief \_\_\_\_\_ of these two officers is to \_\_\_\_\_ over the meetings of their respective chambers.
5. For example, presiding officers have the power to - make members attend sessions in order to have a \_\_\_\_\_ (the number of members - a \_\_\_\_\_ - who must be present in order to conduct business).
6. Each chamber also elects one of its own members to serve in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the presiding officer.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ elects a \_\_\_\_\_ (which means "for the time being").
8. The House elects a \_\_\_\_\_ *pro tempore*.

9. In both houses of the legislature, members of the \_\_\_\_\_ Party and the \_\_\_\_\_ Party establish their own internal party organizations.
10. A group of political party members (House Democrats, for example) is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
11. A caucus meets regularly to keep its members \_\_\_\_\_ and in agreement on important upcoming votes.
12. Each caucus selects a party \_\_\_\_\_, a caucus chair, and a party \_\_\_\_\_.
13. The job of the party whip is to stay in contact with party members and line up their \_\_\_\_\_ on issues before the chambers.
14. In a typical session of the General Assembly as many as 1,200 \_\_\_\_\_ (proposed laws) are introduced in the House and Senate. Only about \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ of these are actually \_\_\_\_\_ and signed into \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ system divides the work load [reading and studying these bills] and saves time.
16. Because the real work of the General Assembly gets done in the \_\_\_\_\_ committees, committee chairpersons are especially \_\_\_\_\_. They decide when committees will \_\_\_\_\_, when bills will be " \_\_\_\_\_ " (considered), and \_\_\_\_\_ (or if) a vote will be taken.
17. Some committees are called \_\_\_\_\_ *committees* because they are permanent. They "stand" from one session to the \_\_\_\_\_.

18. Other committees are considered to be \_\_\_\_\_, or *ad hoc* (created for a \_\_\_\_\_ purpose).
19. A \_\_\_\_\_ *committee* is made up of members of \_\_\_\_\_ the House and the Senate.
20. A \_\_\_\_\_ *committee* is appointed when the House and the Senate pass \_\_\_\_\_ versions of a bill. \_\_\_\_\_ senators and three \_\_\_\_\_ meet and work out the difference between the two versions.

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## **GUIDED READING**

### **Georgia Its Heritage and Its Promise**

#### **Chapter 3: Georgia's Legislative Branch**

##### **Section 3 The Lawmaking Process**

**Directions:** Use the information from pages 80 - 87 to complete the following.

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ General Assembly can pass laws on any issue not \_\_\_\_\_ by the U.S. Constitution.
2. It can \_\_\_\_\_ (change or make an addition to) state laws or do away with them.
3. The Georgia Constitution states that the subject content of a bill must be \_\_\_\_\_ - purpose. That is, the bill must deal with only \_\_\_\_\_ subject.
4. Bills to raise \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ money must be first introduced in the House of \_\_\_\_\_ before going to the Senate.
5. In addition to acting upon bills, the General Assembly also passes \_\_\_\_\_. Resolutions are not to be binding \_\_\_\_\_ statements. Instead, they express legislative \_\_\_\_\_.
6. For example, the General Assembly may pass a resolution to \_\_\_\_\_ a Georgian who has accomplished something or to thank a civic volunteer for outstanding \_\_\_\_\_ service.
7. There are some issues that \_\_\_\_\_ be addressed by the General Assembly.

8. The U.S. Constitution forbids states from entering into \_\_\_\_\_ (formal agreements between two or more nations).
9. Only the \_\_\_\_\_ government may negotiate treaties.
10. The General Assembly may not pass laws that \_\_\_\_\_ business competition or create monopolies.
11. A \_\_\_\_\_ is the exclusive ownership or control of a product or an industry by one company or group.
12. Each bill introduced in the General Assembly is assigned a \_\_\_\_\_. If the bill originates in the House of Representatives its number begins with "\_\_\_\_\_". If it begins in the Senate, it will have the prefix "\_\_\_\_\_."
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ spells out the subject of the bill and briefly summarizes its \_\_\_\_\_.
14. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the House of Representatives assigns a number to each bill when it arrives. (Example HB13.)
15. When HB 13 is introduced in the House, it has its first "\_\_\_\_\_."
16. After the clerk reads aloud the title of the bill, the \_\_\_\_\_ of the House assigns the bill to a \_\_\_\_\_ (usually a standing committee),
17. Once the committee receives HB 13, the \_\_\_\_\_ decides when - or \_\_\_\_\_ - to consider it. The chair may assign the bill to a \_\_\_\_\_ if appropriate.
18. Often, the committee schedules public \_\_\_\_\_ on the bill, either before the subcommittee or the full committee.

19. After the committee members \_\_\_\_\_ the bill and hear from all interested parties, the chairperson calls for a \_\_\_\_\_ on the bill.
20. It [the committee] can recommend that the House "do pass" the bill in its original \_\_\_\_\_, "do pass" with \_\_\_\_\_, "do pass" with a \_\_\_\_\_ bill written by committee, \_\_\_\_\_ the bill out of committee, "do not \_\_\_\_\_" the bill, or \_\_\_\_\_ the bill and take no action.
21. If the committee votes "do not pass," the bill is considered \_\_\_\_\_. at least for that session.
22. If the committee report is \_\_\_\_\_ (first three options), HB 13 is returned to the House and is placed on the general calendar.
23. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a daily listing of the bills that are ready to be considered by the full House.
24. Members of the House take turns speaking, trying to convince the other representatives to \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ HB 13. Members may offer \_\_\_\_\_ [changes] to the bill
25. A \_\_\_\_\_ records in sequence how each legislator voted.
26. In order to pass, a bill must receive the approval of a \_\_\_\_\_ of the membership of the chamber. (In the House of Representatives this number would be \_\_\_\_\_.)
27. Let's assume that HB 13 \_\_\_\_\_ in the House of Representatives, with few amendments. It is closer to becoming a \_\_\_\_\_, but it must pass



\_\_\_\_\_ houses of the General Assembly in \_\_\_\_\_ the same form.

28. HB 13 is \_\_\_\_\_ (certified) by the House and sent to the \_\_\_\_\_, where a similar process takes place.

29. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Senate receives the bill, and it goes through its first \_\_\_\_\_. The president of the Senate (the \_\_\_\_\_) assigns it to a Senate committee.

30. Let's assume that HB 13 makes it to the Senate floor for \_\_\_\_\_, and that a majority of the senators \_\_\_\_\_ to pass it. During the debate, the senators made a number of \_\_\_\_\_ to HB 13, making it a \_\_\_\_\_ bill from the one the house passed.

31. The House must have the chance to \_\_\_\_\_ the changes made by the Senate.

32. If the House approves the changes and agrees to the new version of the bill, HB 13 is sent to the \_\_\_\_\_.

33. If the governor approves HB 13 and \_\_\_\_\_ it, the bill becomes a \_\_\_\_\_. It receives a new number, such as \_\_\_\_\_ 135, and becomes part of the *Official Code of Georgia Annotated*.

34. If the governor does \_\_\_\_\_ agree with the bill, the governor can \_\_\_\_\_ (reject) it. The bill is dead unless the General Assembly votes to \_\_\_\_\_ the governor's veto,

35. Each year the General Assembly \_\_\_\_\_ (sets aside for a specific

purpose) the money needed to operate all departments and agencies of state government.

36. The State of Georgia is \_\_\_\_\_ to maintain a balanced budget.

37. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a plan for receiving and spending money.

38. This means that the state cannot spend more than it takes in through \_\_\_\_\_ (income from taxes and fees) in a fiscal year.

39. The \_\_\_\_\_ year (the budgetary spending year) for Georgia begins July 1 and ends June 30.

40. The governor submits a budget message and financial report to the \_\_\_\_\_ after it convenes in January.

41. The governor also submits a draft of a general appropriations bill for the \_\_\_\_\_ to consider.

42. Once it is passed, the general appropriations bill goes to the governor, who can sign the \_\_\_\_\_ bill or use the \_\_\_\_\_ veto.

43. The line item veto allows the \_\_\_\_\_ to veto specific spending proposals that he or she considers to be wasteful without vetoing the entire appropriations bill.

44. The government needs revenue to \_\_\_\_\_ everything from public school classrooms to highway construction and maintenance.

45. Most of Georgia's revenue comes from \_\_\_\_\_. Taxes are levied on \_\_\_\_\_, property, and most \_\_\_\_\_ items.

46. The \_\_\_\_\_ *income tax* is based on Georgians' income from \_\_\_\_\_ and investments. \_\_\_\_\_ operating in Georgia

pay a *corporate income tax* on their \_\_\_\_\_.

47. Georgians also pay a *general* \_\_\_\_\_ *tax* on items bought at retail stores.

48. A type of sales tax called an \_\_\_\_\_ *tax* is placed on the manufacture or use of certain specialized items such as alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, and motor fuel.

49. Georgia also receives a smaller part of its revenue from \_\_\_\_\_ sources: user fees and regulatory fees.

50. The most visible nontax revenue source in Georgia is the state \_\_\_\_\_.

51. Federal \_\_\_\_\_ provide another source of revenue. Some grants are " \_\_\_\_\_ " for specific purposes or to address specialized needs.

52. The success or failure of the state to generate adequate \_\_\_\_\_ in a healthy economy directly affects the quality of \_\_\_\_\_ offered to the people of Georgia.