

Creating the Budget

Time Needed: One Class Period

Materials Needed:

Student worksheets, projector for optional PowerPoint, scissors

Copy Instructions:

Student reading and activities (*double-sided; class set*)

Chronology Cards (half class set, single-sided)

Learning Objectives.

Students will be able to:

- define the following key terms: appropriation, subcommittee, resolution, budget, and Conference Committee.
- identify and sort the six steps of creating a federal budget.
- analyze the difficulties faced in creating a federal budget.

STEP BY STEP

- ANTICIPATE** the lesson by asking the following questions: "What is a budget? Who makes the budget in your house? Do you have a budget?"

POWERPOINT OPTION

- DISTRIBUTE** the Creating the Budget Guided Notes.
- RUN** the Creating the Budget PowerPoint presentation using the built-in questions as an opportunity for class review and as a check for understanding. Have students work through their guided notes.

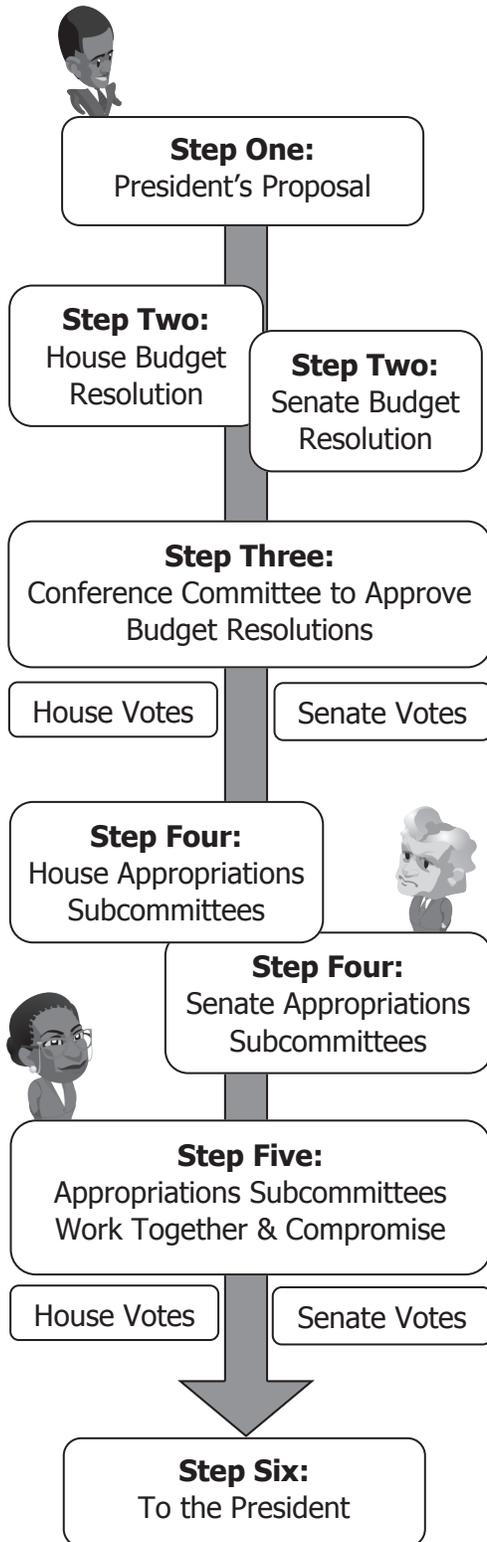
PAPER OPTION

- DISTRIBUTE** the Creating the Budget Reading and Creating the Budget Guided Notes.
- READ** students through the Creating the Budget Reading as a class, stopping to review and check for understanding.
- INSTRUCT** students to complete the Creating the Budget Guided Notes page, individually, in pairs, or as a whole class activity.
- DISTRIBUTE** the Creating the Budget Chronology Cards (half a page per student).
- DIRECT** students to cut and paste OR to copy the information from the chronology cards to their Creating the Budget Guided Notes, p2 **in the order that events occur in the creation of the federal budget.**
- DISTRIBUTE** the Creating the Budget Activity pages.
- REVIEW** instructions for the Activity pages and instruct students to complete the activities.

Creating the Budget

Name: _____

Creating the federal budget is no easy task! A budget is a plan for receiving and spending money. The **federal budget** is the U.S. government's plan for managing revenue and spending. Our government has a lot of revenue and a lot of spending to keep track of, so it takes hard work and more than a year to create the federal budget! The ultimate goal is for the President and the Congress to work together to make it happen.



Step One

Every year, on the first Monday in February, the President must deliver his budget proposal for taxing and spending to Congress for the upcoming year. He has help from the Office of Management and Budget, which spends a lot of time writing and collecting documents that help support each budgetary decision.

Step Two

The U.S. House of Representatives and Senate each develop **budget resolutions**. These are rough drafts of the budget based on the President's proposal, the previous year's budget, and new program requests.

Step Three

Next, selected members of the House and Senate come together in what is called a **Conference Committee**. Members of the Conference Committee take each house's budget resolutions and create one **joint resolution**.

Step Four

In order to make the process of creating a budget more manageable, the House and Senate break down the budget into **twelve** pieces and give each piece to an appropriations subcommittees. An **appropriation** means money set aside for a specific purpose. Each subcommittee handles specific program funding in certain areas. They assign all the money they are responsible for in documents called **appropriations bills**.

Step Five

After the appropriations subcommittees have created appropriations bills, the subcommittees from the House meet with their corresponding subcommittee from the Senate. They hammer out their differences through compromise and working together.

Step Six

The House and the Senate must approve the appropriations bills developed by the joint subcommittees. Once that is done, it's on to the President! He or she must choose whether to sign the budget into law or to veto the budget. And all this must happen by October 1st!

Creating the Budget

Name: _____



A budget is...

The federal budget is...

Step 1

- A budget is created by the _____ and the _____ working together.
- It takes over a _____ to complete the budget!
- The President has help creating his budget proposal from the Office of _____ and _____.
- The President's budget proposal is due on the _____.

Step 2

•The U.S. House of Representatives and Senate base their budget plans on the following things:

- _____
- _____
- _____

•These budget plans made in Congress are called _____.

Step 3

- The House and the Senate come together in a _____.
- In a Conference Committee, they develop a _____.

Step 4

•In order to make the process of budgeting more manageable, the House and the Senate break down the budget into _____ pieces.

•These committees are called _____ committees! An _____ is money set aside for a specific purpose.

Step 5

- After the Appropriations Subcommittees have created bills, the subcommittees from the House meet with the subcommittees from the _____.

Step 6

• When the subcommittees are finished meeting together, they each return to the House and the Senate and present their _____.

•Appropriations bills then go to the President where he will _____ or _____ them.

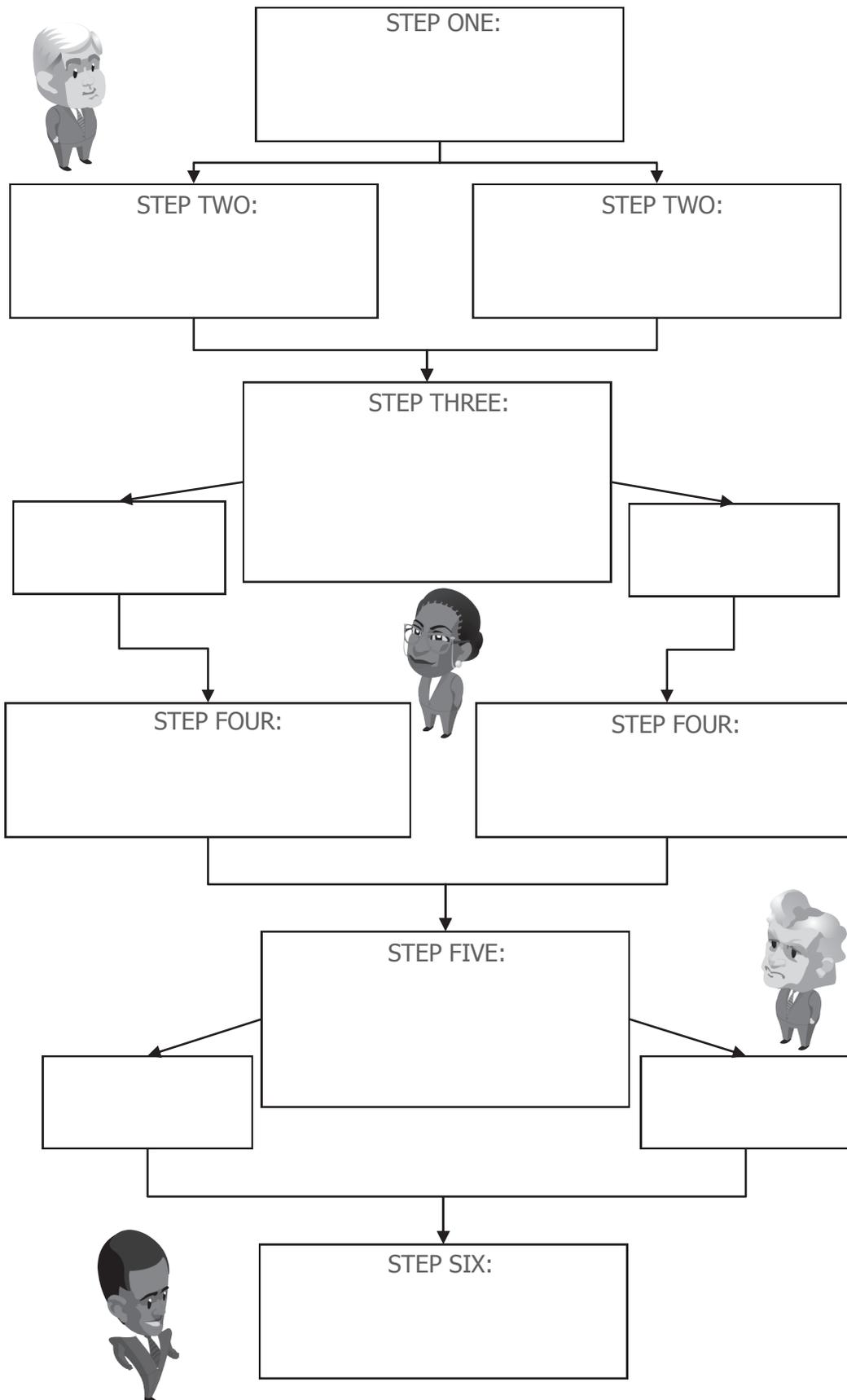


Creating the Budget

Name: _____

The Federal Budgeting Process

Fill out the chart below as you make your way through the presentation:



Creating the Budget

Name: _____

Number the following steps in the correct order.

- _____ A) The House and Senate break into twelve appropriations subcommittees, each with its own category of spending to cover.
- _____ B) The House and Senate work independently to create budget resolutions.
- _____ C) After the House and Senate each approve the final budget, it is sent to the desk of _____ the President to be vetoed or signed into law!
- _____ D) The President makes a proposal with the help of the Office of Management and Budget. This must happen by the first Monday in February.
- _____ E) Select members of the House and Senate get together in a Conference Committee to work out the differences in their resolutions.
- _____ F) The House and Senate appropriations subcommittees meet together to discuss their appropriations bills and make compromises.

Put a star next to the step that you think might be the hardest for Congress to complete.

List one reason that you think that step might be the hardest for Congress to complete.

Fill in the blanks in the letter below using the words in the word bank.

budget	federal budget	appropriations	resolutions		
conference committee	veto	February	October	joint resolution	twelve

Mr. Congressman
Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

_____ 8, 2011

Loyal Constituent
555 Main St
Smalltown, USA

Dear Loyal Constituent,

Thank you for your questions regarding the _____. It works very similarly to your _____ at home. The President just submitted his proposal, which means Congress is working to develop House and Senate _____. We will then begin work on a _____ by compromising in a _____. The next step is to divide into _____ subcommittees to create _____ bills. After the appropriations bills are presented to Congress, each house votes! All this must get done by _____, when the President will choose to _____ or sign the budget into law.

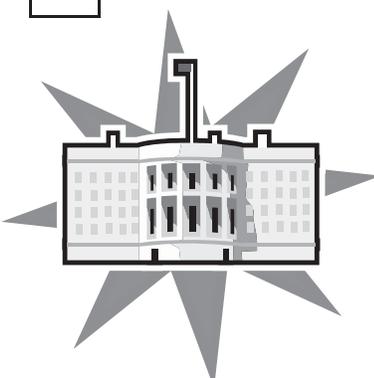
Thank you again for your continued support and for taking time to write me!
Sincerely, Mr. Congressman

Creating the Budget

Name: _____







ACROSS

4. what the President will do if he or she approves final appropriations bills
5. a branch of Congress
8. money set aside for a specific purpose
9. what the President will do if he or she disapproves of a bill
10. the number of appropriation subcommittees in each branch of Congress
12. the month that the official budget process should end
13. a plan for receiving and spending money

DOWN

1. the person who proposes a budget and signs or vetoes the final budget
2. the budget plan developed by Congress
3. the month the official budget process begins
6. this type of committee occurs when the House and Senate meet together to write a joint resolution
7. this body of people is made up of the House and the Senate
11. a branch of Congress

Creating the Budget

Name: _____

Cut out the following boxes. **Attach** them next to the correct step on your graphic organizer.

OR



Copy the following sentences into the correct boxes next to your graphic organizer.

Congress works separately to create budget resolutions, or rough drafts.

The Appropriations Subcommittees in both branches of Congress meet to create bills.

The House and the Senate each vote to approve compromises.

The House and the Senate come together to work out their differences and create a joint resolution.

The House and the Senate each vote to approve compromises.

Appropriations Subcommittees from the House and the Senate meet together, then present their bills.

The President signs appropriations bills passed by the Congress to finalize the budget.

On the first Monday in February, the President submits his budget proposal to Congress.

Creating the Budget

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A budget is... *a plan for receiving and spending money*

The federal budget is... *the U.S. government's plan for managing revenue and spending*

Step 1

- A budget is created by the president and the Congress working together.
- It takes over a year to complete the budget!
- The President has help creating his budget proposal from the Office of Management and Budget.
- The President's budget proposal is due on the first Monday in February.

Step 2

- The U.S. House of Representatives and Senate base their budget plans on the following things:
 - president's proposal
 - the previous year's budget
 - new funding requests

• These budget plans made in Congress are called resolution.

Step 3

- The House and the Senate come together in a Conference Committee.
- In a Conference Committee, they develop a joint resolution.

Step 4

- In order to make the process of budgeting more manageable, the House and the Senate break down the budget into twelve pieces.
- These committees are called appropriations committees! An appropriation is money set aside for a specific purpose.

Step 5

- After the Appropriations Subcommittees have created bills, the subcommittees from the House meet with the subcommittees from the Senate.

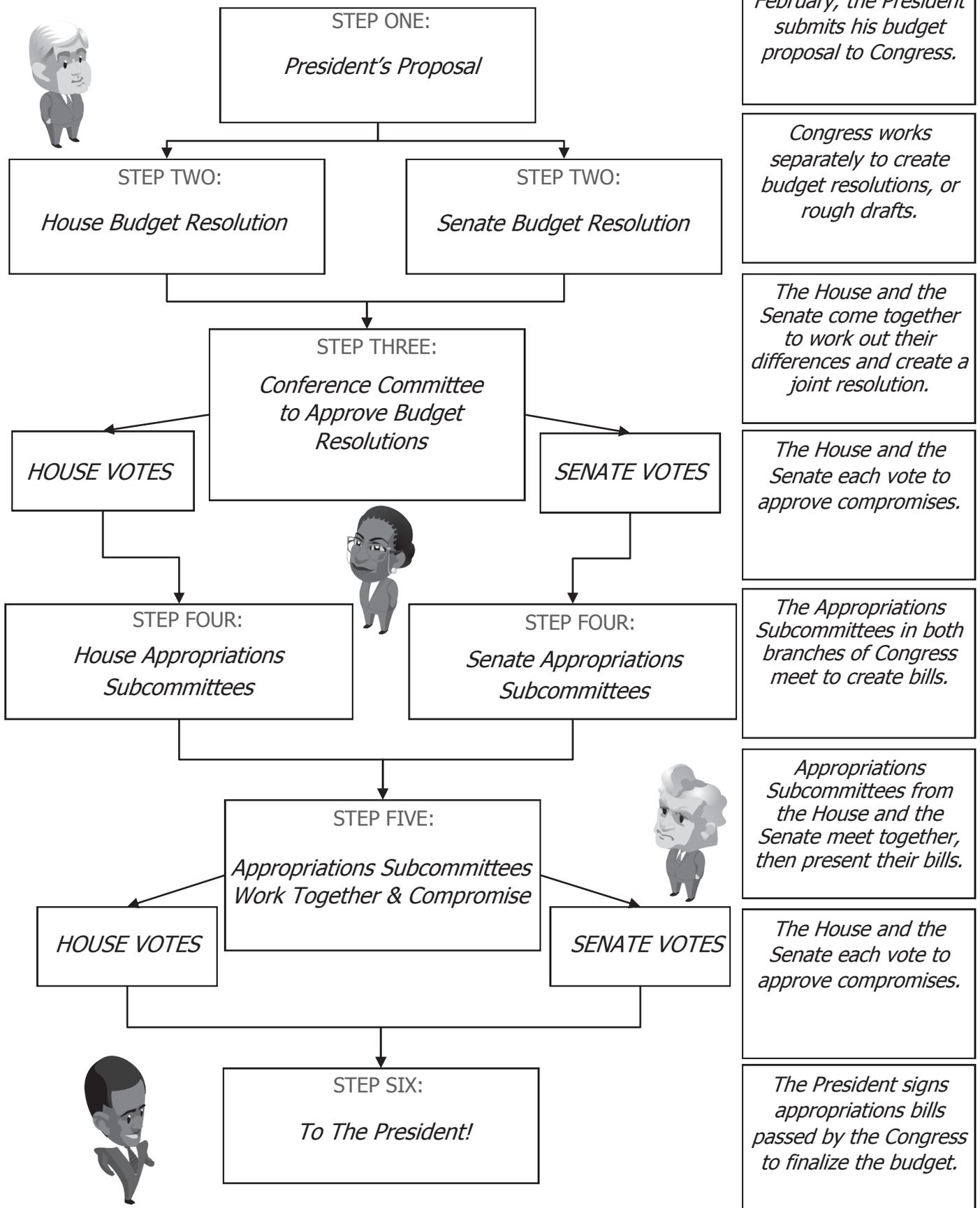
Step 6

- When the subcommittees are finished meeting together, they each return to the House and the Senate and present their Appropriation Bill
- Appropriations bills then go to the President where he will sign or veto them.



The Federal Budgeting Process

Fill out the chart below as you make your way through the presentation:



Creating the Budget

TEACHER GUIDE

Number the following steps in the correct order.

- 4 A) The House and Senate break into twelve appropriations subcommittees, each with its own category of spending to cover.
- 2 B) The House and Senate work independently to create budget resolutions.
- 6 C) After the House and Senate each approve the final budget, it is sent to the desk of the President to be vetoed or signed into law!
- 1 D) The President makes a proposal with the help of the Office of Management and Budget. This must happen by the first Monday in February.
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February 8, 2011
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555 Main St
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Thank you again for your continued support and for taking time to write me!
Sincerely, Mr. Congressman

The crossword puzzle grid contains the following words:

- ACROSS:**
 - 4. what the President will do if he or she approves final appropriations bills (VETO)
 - 5. a branch of Congress (SENATE)
 - 8. money set aside for a specific purpose (RESOLUTION)
 - 9. what the President will do if he or she disapproves of a bill (VETO)
 - 10. the number of appropriation subcommittees in each branch of Congress (TWELVE)
 - 12. the month that the official budget process should end (JANUARY)
 - 13. a plan for receiving and spending money (BUDGET)
- DOWN:**
 - 1. the person who proposes a budget and signs or vetoes the final budget (PRESIDENT)
 - 2. the budget plan developed by Congress (BUDGET)
 - 3. the month the official budget process begins (FEBRUARY)
 - 6. this type of committee occurs when the House and Senate meet together to write a joint resolution (COMMITTEE)
 - 7. this body of people is made up of the House and the Senate (CONGRESS)
 - 11. a branch of Congress (HOUSE)

ACROSS

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5. a branch of Congress
8. money set aside for a specific purpose
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