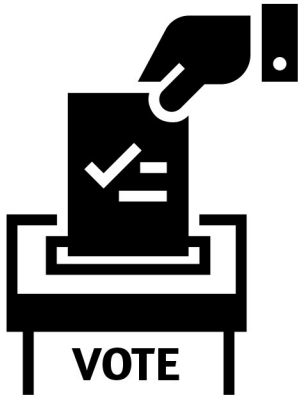


REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

Representative democracy is when a group of people select someone to communicate their views and make decisions in the government for them. In the United States, people choose representatives in elections. Voting in elections is very important.

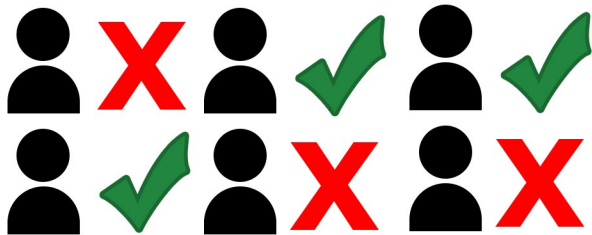
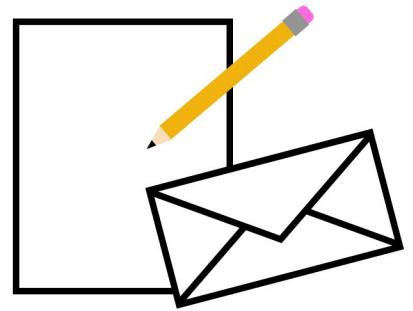


We choose who we want to represent us in elections. U.S. citizens over the age of 18 are able to vote for their representatives in the local, state, and federal government. In New Hampshire towns, people even vote on how much

money the town and schools can spend! Voting is one of the most important ways we have to make our voices heard and to make sure we have good representatives.

We can call, write, or email the people who represent us to tell them what we think. Any person – even kids – can

contact their representatives. This is the best way for a representative to learn what most people want them to do. It can also help representatives to learn more about the issues. A good representative wants to hear from the people who they represent about what matters to them.



People have a right to know how representatives vote on the issues.

Representatives vote on bills to make laws. Those votes are all public information. That means that anyone can look it up at any time for any reason. If representatives don't vote the way that people want them to, they might be voted out of office at the next election.

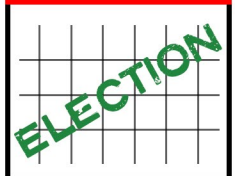
All representatives are elected for a specific length of time called a term.

If a representative wants to keep their job after their term is done, they have to run for office and be re-elected. Some jobs, like president, have a limit to the number of terms a person can serve in that office. In New Hampshire, for example, the governor's term is only two years, but there is no term limit.

NOVEMBER
2022



NOVEMBER
2024



HOW DOES THIS GET COMPLICATED?

Once you elect a representative, that person makes the decisions they want to make for the rest of their term. While most representatives listen to the people they represent, they might listen more to the people they agree with.

