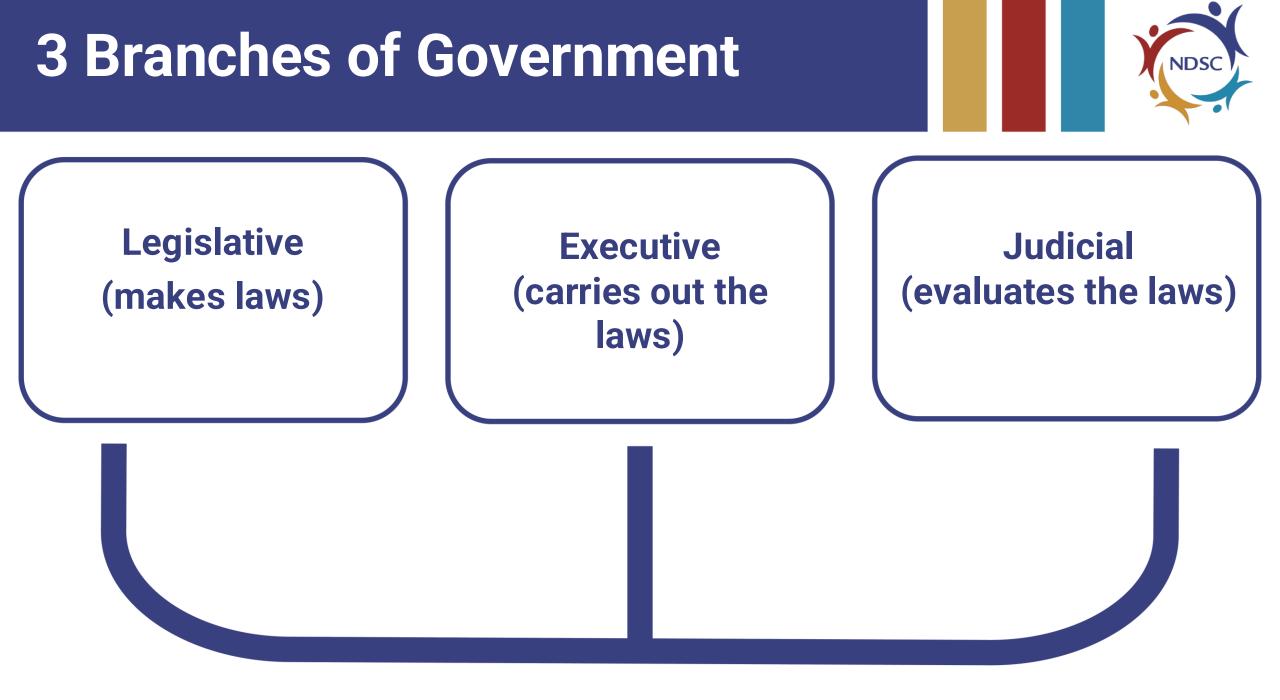


Basic Government Processes

Heather Sachs, NDSC Policy & Advocacy Co-Director Rachel Mast, Self-Advocate and NDAC Member



3 Branches of Government



Legislative (makes laws)

- Congress 2 chambers (House and Senate)
 - House: 435 members, number determined by state population, term is 2 years
 - Senate: 100 members, 2 per state, term is 6 years

3 Branches of Government



- Executive (carries out the laws)
 - President, Vice President, Cabinet

3 Branches of Government

NDSC

Judicial (evaluates the laws)

- U.S. Supreme Court
- Federal Courts

How a Bill Becomes a Law

NDSC

- 1. Someone has idea for a law
- 2. Idea gets written into a bill and goes to one chamber of Congress
- 3. Bill goes to committee in that chamber in charge of that topic
- 4. If committee passes bill, goes to the floor
- 5. If passes the floor of one chamber, goes to the other chamber and repeats the process
- 6. If passes next chamber, goes to President for approval
- 7. If President signs the bill, it becomes a law!
- 8. If President doesn't sign it ("veto"), then it goes back to Congress.
- 9. Congress can overturn the veto with a 2/3 vote (but this rarely happens)

Differences Between Federal, State, and Local Governments



- Federal: like the "big boss of the country"
 - Issues that affect everyone in the country
 - Declares war, regulates trade, prints money, conducts foreign policy

Differences Between Federal, State, and Local Governments



• State:

- Issues that affect everyone in the state
- Administers public education systems, conducts elections, regulates state highways and state businesses

Differences Between Federal, State, and Local Governments



• Local:

- City or county level
- Oversees police and fire departments, zoning and land use, public schools (along with state oversight), road maintenance, sanitation

THANK YOU!



