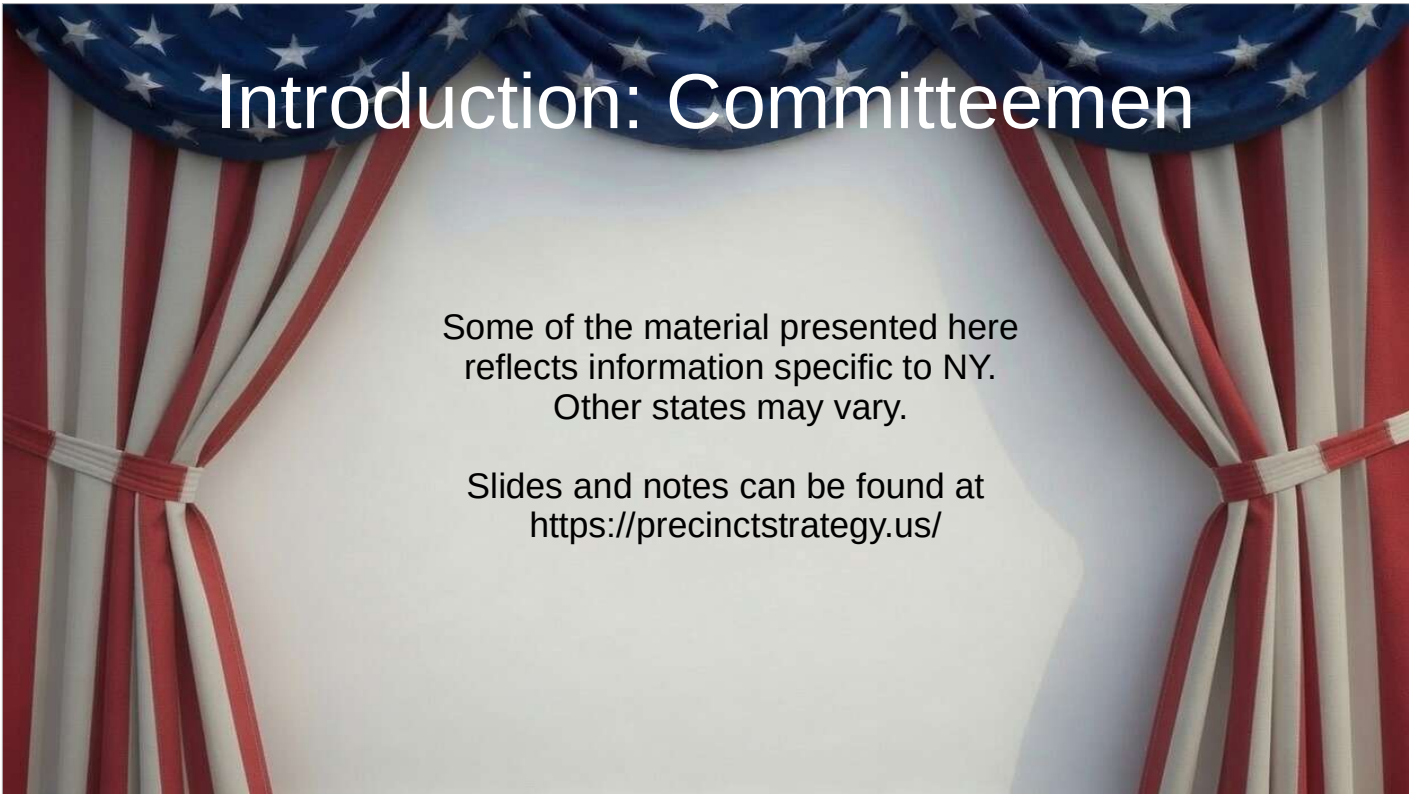


The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top portion is a blue valance with white stars. Below it, red and white striped curtains are pulled back to reveal a light-colored map of New York State in the center.

Introduction: Committeemen

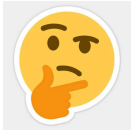
Some of the material presented here
reflects information specific to NY.
Other states may vary.

Slides and notes can be found at
<https://precinctstrategy.us/>

Introduction



Our Elections



Q: How do candidates get on a ballot?

A: Committee Members!



This webinar is an introduction to committee members, what they are and why they are so important

Have you ever stopped to think about how a candidate gets on the ballot? Many people don't know. And they've never even heard of "committee members".

But before we begin to talk about who or what they are, we need to take a step back and understand some basics about our election process.

And it begins with geography.

Geography: Our Country

- 50 States

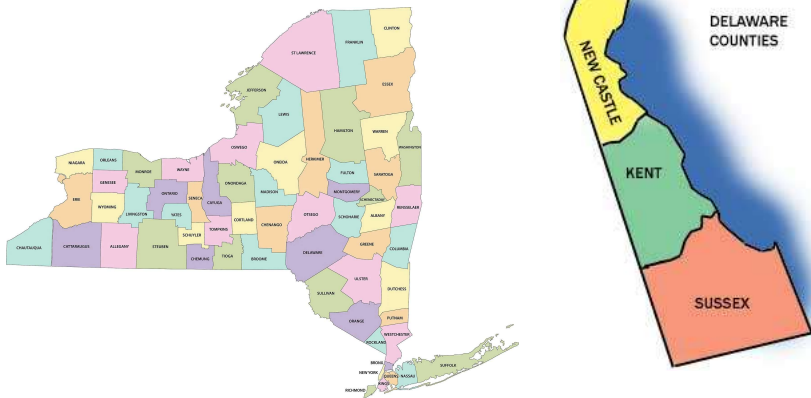


Our country is broken down into 50 states.

But it doesn't stop there.

States → Counties

- New York: 62 Delaware: 3 US: 3K+



Each state is further subdivided into counties.

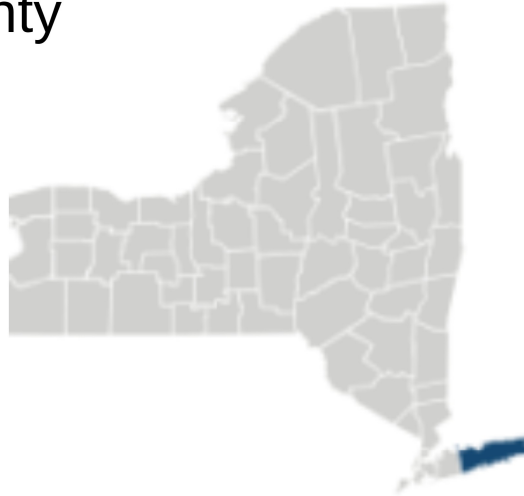
But the number of counties can vary from state to state.

For instance, NY has 62 counties, whereas Delaware only has 3.

The US has over 3K counties in total.

New York Counties

- Suffolk County



Here is an example of 1 county in NY: Suffolk County

And it happens to be home to Congressional Districts 1, and part of CD 2 and 3.

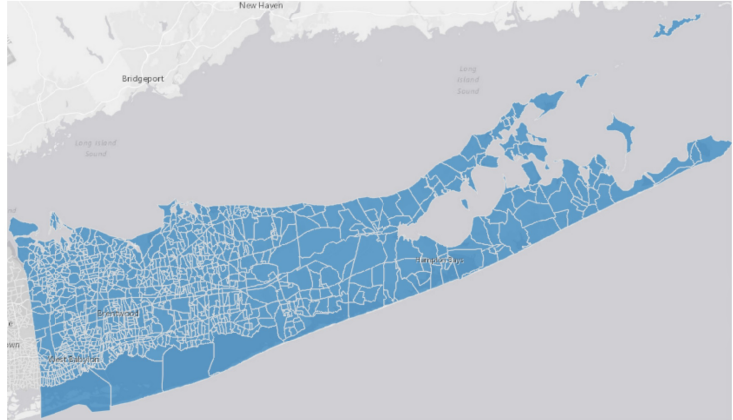
~~(FYI ... NY has 26 Congressional districts.~~

~~And the US has 435 all together.)~~

But the breakdown gets even more granular.

Counties → Precincts/EDs

- Precincts/Election Districts
- A Geographic area to administer elections
- Suffolk (1,070)
- US (170K)



Counties are further subdivided into precincts or election districts.

The nomenclature may vary from state to state but they serve a common purpose:

To administer elections.

You've probably received a post card prior to an election, identifying your election district and poll location – where you go to vote.

Suffolk County, pictured here, has over 1K EDs.

The US has over 170K in total.

Precinct/Election District (ED)

- A “neighborhood”
- Suffolk County
Brookhaven Town
ED #187



An ED is often a relatively small area or neighborhood with a population of roughly 700 – 3,000 people.

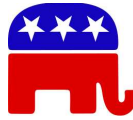
Suffolk County has a large population (1.5M) and is geographically broken down into ten (10) Towns first and then into EDs second.

Pictured here is one ED, approx. one (1) square mile with a voting population of about 1K.

And it is at this level – the election district or precinct – that political representation begins.

Political Parties & Representation

- Democrat
Republican
(Other)



- Structure:
2 Representatives
per ED, per Party
at the County level



- Men/Women
Committee Members!

So, how does that work?

Well, let's take a closer look at Political Parties.
Because this is where representation is manifested.

The parties we are most familiar with are the Democrat
and Republican parties.

**Key: Generally speaking, at the local level,
2 Representatives per ED per Party**

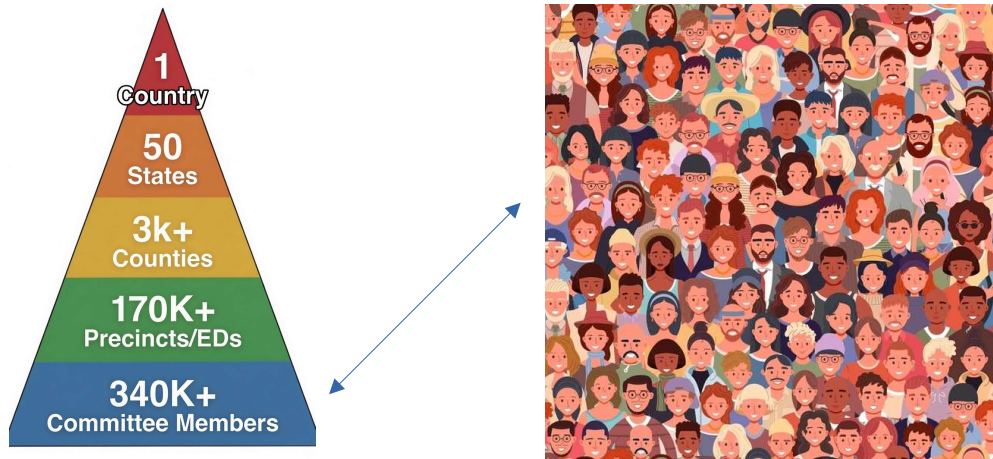
Reps: Committee Members

- Who are these “Reps”?
- YOU! Or your neighbor! To REPRESENT your neighborhood!
- “Voting Members”* of the Party
- *** Vote for Party Leaders ***
- *** Nominate candidates for local public office ***
- Precursor to Primary & General Elections



* Not to be confused with “registered voters”

Theory: A Representative Government

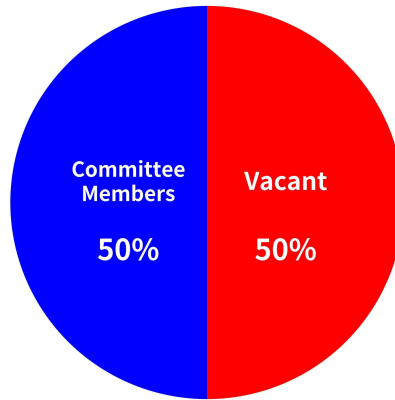


In theory, this is a fairly robust representation, at the local level, for the overall population at a national level.

With over 170K EDs throughout the county, and 2 representatives each,
That's over 340K representatives per party in the country!

That's the theory. But wait!

Reality: Vacancies!



In reality ... there are SO many vacancies!
Nearly 50% in many cases!
Why?

Problem1: Lack of Public Awareness

- Not Publicized



- Lack of Civics Education



- Lack of Transparency



* The public is not informed of when meetings are held

* They are not invited unless it is by personal invitation

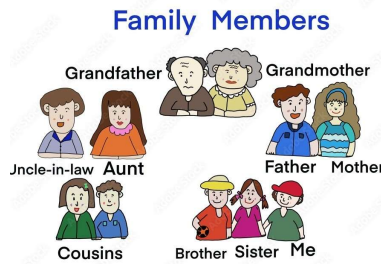
* Lack of civics education in our public and private schools

* Who are the candidates running for office?

Often, the first time you even see their name is on your ballot on election day!

Problem2: Selective

- Appointments 
- Selective (Town, County, State employees, friends & family)



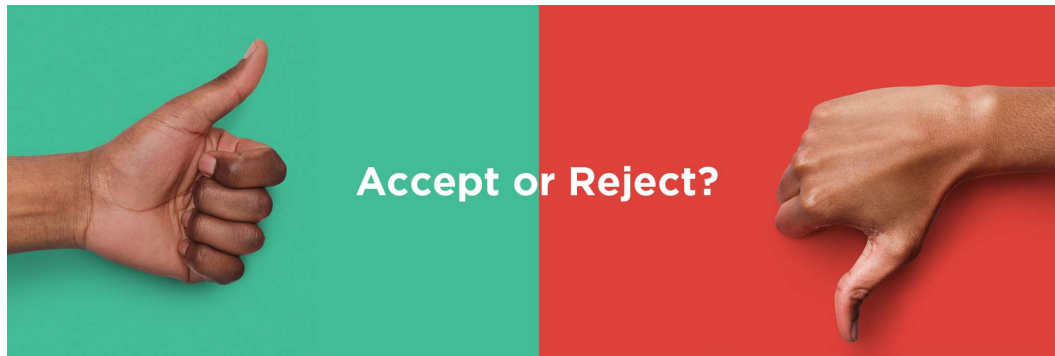
In some cases, County Committee Members are temporarily hand-picked and appointed.

They may have a personal relationship with existing members.

In some cases, they are government employees, at the town or county level.

Problem3: Verification Inconsistencies

- Approval Bias



In some cases, individuals seeking to become committee members may be challenged and/or rejected.

Sometimes, unfairly or unlawfully.

What this means is, that with approx. half the number of committee positions vacant, many neighborhoods do not have any representation at all.

And decision making that occurs within the party at the local level – is limited to a fewer number of representatives.

Concerns: Non-Residents

- Bylaws can broaden residency requirements
Assembly District vs. Election District



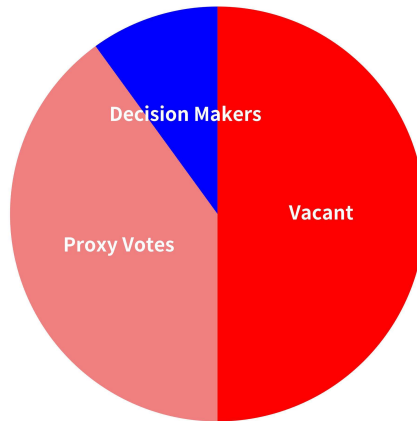
Other factors can further compromise the representation of your election district or precinct.

Party bylaws can define the residency requirements for becoming a Committee Member

For instance, in Suffolk County, NY you can be a representative of any election district as long it falls within the boundaries of your Assembly District (outlined in red), which is a much larger area.

As this map illustrates, an election district in one location (outlined in yellow) could be represented by someone who lives in another election district 20 miles away.

Concerns: Proxy Votes!



And it gets worse.

In some cases, individuals may be appointed or added to a slate petition without their knowledge.

Someone may be asked to be a Committee Member without knowing what the purpose or meaning of the position is – as a representative of the neighborhood.

And they may be asked to turn in their proxy vote to committee leaders.

This results is a consolidation of power and undermines the fundamental bedrock of our government: representation by “We the People”.

Nomination Convention

- The precursor to elections
- Several hundred Committee Members out of 2K+
- 3 Congressmen, 1 Party Leader



Example: Suffolk County Republican Nomination Convention Feb, 2026

The Party Leader and the Executive Committee appoint a Nominating Committee who recommends a slate petition and a floor vote was taken. By the Committee Members – NOT the general public. As mentioned earlier – this is the precursor to an election.

So, think about that ... 3 potential Congressional seats were unchallenged and the recommended candidates secured the nomination.

~~Left to Right: Andrew Garbarino (CD2), Nick LaLota (CD1), Jesse Garcia (Chairman), Mike Lipitri (CD3)~~

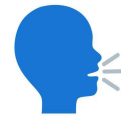
Problem/Consequences: Public Apathy

- Disillusioned
- Disenfranchised
- “My vote doesn’t matter”
- Low voter turnout
- LACK OF TRUE REPRESENTATION!
- Lose our country!

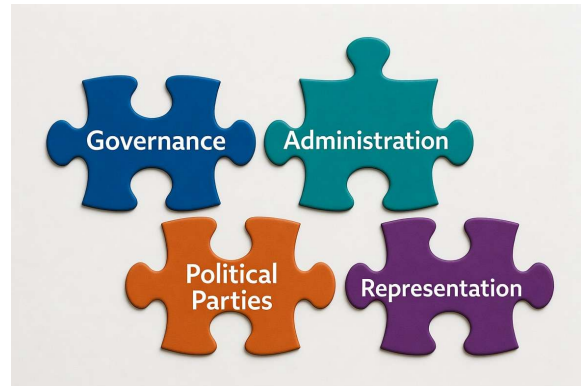


The Solution!

- The Precinct Project
- Get involved at the local level
- Become a Committee Member
- Represent your election district
- Spread the word!



Differences



Before concluding, I would like to emphasize that this presentation is an introduction to Committee Members. They are not elected politicians, they are not government officials, rather they are unpaid, volunteer PARTY positions. But ... they are vital to our country's founding principles that demand a representative government "of the people, by the people, for the people".

Although the details details can vary from state to state, and even at the lower level of county to county, that objective is the same: It's about REPRESENTATION!

States & Counties

* E L E C T I O N S *

Governance	Administration	Political Parties	Representation
US & State Constitution	Chief Election Officer (CEO)	Republican	Elected Officials
Federal & State Law	Secretary of State Lieutenant Governor	Democrat	Party Leaders
Codes, Rules, Regulations	Commission	Other	Committee Members
Guidelines	Board of Elections		
Bylaws			

Registered Voters

Just to give some examples of those differences ...

* Governance: Although all states are governed by Federal Law, every state has it's own state laws. The are codified and enforceable.

* Administration: In any given state, there might be an individual in charge of elections and this framework – selected or appointed – or it might be a body, such as a Commission or Board. And that entity may have it's own practices, procedures and guidelines.

States & Counties

* E L E C T I O N S *

Governance	Administration	Political Parties	Representation
US & State Constitution	Chief Election Officer (CEO)	Republican	Elected Officials
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Codes, Rules, Regulations	Commission	Other	Committee Members
Guidelines	Board of Elections		
Bylaws			

Registered Voters

* Parties: The Democrat & Republican Party can be found in every state, but other official parties can exist.

A lesser known fact is that political parties are actually “private corporations”. And as such they are subject to what is referred to as “bylaws”.

And **bylaws** are the rules and regulations adopted by an organization to self govern. This is a topic that the Precinct Project will explore in more detail later.

* Representatives: Elected Officials, Party Leaders and then there are Committee Members. Committee Members are your REPRESENTATIVES at the LOCAL level. They represent you, your neighbors and are the

subject of this presentation.



<https://precinctprojectusa.org/>

State Pages



Click below to view your state:

Each state page features points of contact, background on counties and precincts, links to state and county GOPs and local civic groups.

- [Alabama](#)
- [Alaska](#)
- [Arizona](#)
- [Arkansas](#)
- [California](#)
- [Colorado](#)
- [Connecticut](#)
- [Delaware](#)
- [Florida](#)
- [Georgia](#)
- [Hawaii](#)
- [Idaho](#)
- [Illinois](#)
- [Indiana](#)
- [Iowa](#)

So, it can get rather complicated.

But to help you navigate this, Steve Stern and his team at Precinct Project USA have put together a coalition of leaders for the individual states.

They are an invaluable asset that can provide assistance and information that is specific to your state and help you get started.
You are not alone!

Go to their website at PrecinctProjectUSA.org and link to the States page for details.

Conclusion: Committee Members

- Become a “Voting Member” of your Party
- Elect Party Leaders
- Nominate Candidates for Office
- Engage & Represent Your Community
- **TAKE BACK YOUR COUNTRY!!!**



In conclusion, we hope you will join us and consider becoming a Committee Member in your County.

Where you can have a seat at the table and truly make a difference!

The background of the slide features a close-up of American flag-themed curtains. The top section is a blue valance with white stars. Below it, red and white vertical stripes are visible, with the curtains tied back on both sides to reveal a white silhouette of the state of Florida in the center.

Introduction: Committeemen

For more information please visit

<https://precinctprojectusa.org/>

<https://projectcivica.org/>

<https://www.precinctstrategy.com/>

<https://precinctstrategy.us/>