

Key Terms

At-Large Election – Candidates are elected from the entire area, not districts.

Constituent – Citizens residing in a particular candidate's area or district.

District Election/Single-Member District – Candidates run for office representing certain districts. Only one candidate can be elected from the district.

Full Representation System – Alternative election systems like cumulative voting, limited voting, and choice voting where groupings of voters are likely to win seats in proportion to that grouping's share of the popular vote; also called "proportional representation."

Multi-Seat Election – More than one candidate is elected from a particular area.

One-Person, One-Vote Principle – Law stipulating that everyone's vote must be counted equally.

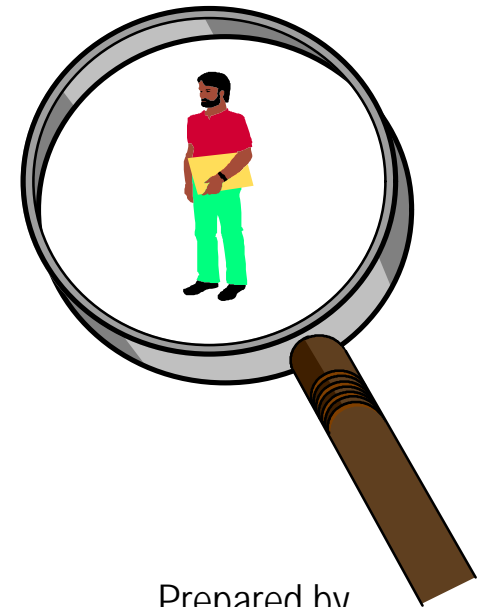
Plurality – The person, or persons with the most votes win.

Threshold – The percentage of the vote a group must obtain in order to have a certain chance of electing someone of their own choosing.

Voting Rights Act – 1965 federal law ensuring equal opportunity and fairness in the voting process. **Section 2** prohibits minority vote dilution which is basically tactics, legislation, situations, etc. that weaken the voting strength of minorities. **Section 5** requires that certain areas obtain approval before enacting any voting changes.

Winner-Take-All System – Generally, our American election system where 51 percent of voters can win 100 percent of representation; unlike a system where seats are distributed according to a proportion or percentage of the vote.

The One Vote System



Prepared by
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