Interest Groups and Lobbying Guided Notes - Unit 3

What is an Interest Group?
- ________________________________ group of ____________________________ seeking to __________________ the ____________________________ and ____________________________.
- they operate at ____________________________ of government (state and national)

What is a Lobbyist?
- ________________________________ for an ____________________________ - group

Functions of Interest Groups

Representation
- Serves as a ____________________________ between government and the people

Education
- Increase people’s ____________________________ and interest
- ________________________________ with data to make good ____________________________

Participation
- People work together for a ____________________________ ____________________________

Agenda Building
- Bring ____________________________ to public and government ____________________________
- Make sure something is done to ____________________________ ____________________________

Program Monitoring
- Keep ____________________________ of government programs that are ____________________________ to the group’s goals

Why do Interest Groups form?
- Remember ____________________________ ?? – Madison says ____________________________ are undesirable but inevitable
- Why? People ____________________________ group ____________________________ to address concerns, interests, etc.

How do Interest Groups link people to the government?
- ____________________________ members’ desires to ____________________________ officials
- ____________________________ government ____________________________ plans to the people
- Raise and spend ____________________________ to ____________________________ government officials

How are interest groups different from political parties?
- Parties: ____________________________ individuals to office, focus on broad topics and are accountable to _______ people
- Interest Groups: ____________________________ elected officials, focus on one topic, and are accountable ____________________________ to ____________________________ (private organization)

Types of Interest Groups

Economic Interest: primary purpose is to promote the ____________________________ of its members

Business
- ____________________________ have interest groups monitor legislation that may impact business
- Examples: Chamber of Commerce, NAM (National Association of Manufacturers)

Labor
- ____________________________ organizations that represent ____________________________ rights
- Examples: AFL-CIO (American Federation of Labor – Congress of Industry Organization)

Professional
- Membership based on ____________________________ –
- Examples: NEA (educators), AMA (medical), ABA (American Bar Association – lawyers)

Agricultural
- Shape ____________________________ policies
- EX: National Farmers Union, Farm Bureau

Public Interest
- Public Interest (or special interest) – wants ____________________________ that doesn’t focus on benefitting just one group of people

Environmental
- ____________________________ protection, pollution, ____________________________ rights, no offshore drilling, etc.
Ex: PETA, WWF (World Wildlife Federation) and Sierra Club

**Equality**
- __________________ rights for ___________________ groups
- Ex: NOW, NAACP, VFW and AARP

**Single-Issue**
- Focus on ______________ issue (instead of a group of people)
- Ex: Planned Parenthood, NRA

**Strategies – What do interest groups do?**

**Influencing Elections (Electioneering)**
- __________________ contributions (amount is limited per candidate → PACs)
- _______________ efforts
- ____________ awareness

**Litigation**
- Take issues to ______________ if ______________ won’t support (example: NAACP supports Brown v. Board case because Congress wasn’t moving forward on segregation legislation)

**Going public:**
- Appeal to the __________________ for support
- Raise awareness of issues
- Raise money through PACs
- ______________ are formed by interest groups to raise ______________ for campaign or candidate

**Lobbying**
- Try to __________________ the government (______________________) by providing information and data

**Direct Lobbying**
- ______________ – many lobbyists were Congressmen and have friends in Congress
- Executive – provide decision makers at all levels with information to help ______________ laws
- Judicial – litigation, amicus curiae briefs (cannot directly “lobby” judges, would be improper)

**Grassroots Lobbying**
- “the ______________ back home”
- Write letters, emails, fax, phone calls, ______________ to representatives/senators

**Coalition Lobbying**
- Several groups join ______________ for a common __________________

**Protests/Radical Lobbying**
- Use ______________ to bring attention to a cause
- Examples: ______________ (red paint or “blood” of fur worn by celebrities), ______________ ______________ groups (sit-ins, protest marches, etc.)

**What rules or laws that govern lobbyists?**
- Required to ______________ with the __________ of the __________ or secretary of __________
- Indicate what group they ______________
- Indicate the amount of their ______________ or ______________/ expenses that will be reimbursed to them
- File ______________ statements
- Lobbyists of ______________ governments or companies must register with the ______________ Dept.
- 1946 Federal ______________ of ______________ Act, Has not been very ______________ in limiting abuse effectively
- 1978 ______________ in Government Act: senior ______________ branch officials cannot lobby federal agencies on a matter that fell within their scope of responsibility for _______ years after leaving government service
- 2007 Congress ______________ all gifts from lobbyists
- Little to no control of ______________
- **What makes interest groups successful?**

1. 2. 3. 4.