

Engagement: Positive Social Change

Student's Name

Institutional Affiliation

Week Six Discussion: Positive Social Change

Reflecting on New Learnings About the American Government

In the POLI 1001 course, one significant aspect of the American government I learned about was the intricacies of the legislative process, particularly the role of congressional committees. Before this course, my understanding of how bills were passed was rudimentary, limited to the general idea that both houses of Congress must approve a bill before it becomes law. However, the course materials and lectures provided a detailed explanation of the critical function that committees play in shaping legislation. Congressional committees are responsible for evaluating, modifying, and endorsing proposed bills. This process involves hearings, debates, and amendments, often determining a bill's fate long before it reaches the floor of the House or Senate. Learning about this process broadened my understanding by highlighting the complexity and importance of strategic negotiations and expertise within these committees, underscoring the multifaceted nature of lawmaking in the American government.

Discussing Personal Political, Social, and Civic Engagement

Regarding my engagement in political, social, and civic activities, I have actively participated in several community initiatives. For example, I volunteered for a local election campaign last year, where I helped with voter registration drives, canvassing, and organizing community meetings. This experience allowed me to understand the electoral process and the importance of grassroots efforts in mobilizing voters. Additionally, I participated in a social cause advocating for environmental sustainability by joining a local organization that organizes clean-up drives and educational workshops. Being part of this organization not only contributed positively to our community by promoting environmental awareness but also fostered my personal growth by enhancing my organizational and leadership skills. These activities have

significantly impacted my community by fostering a sense of civic responsibility and encouraging more active participation in local governance. They have also instilled in me a deeper appreciation for civic engagement's role in driving social change and improving community well-being.