



<b>US Election Vocabulary</b>	<b>Translation/Notes</b>
absentee ballot	
activist	
amendment	
appointment	
appropriations	
at large	
authorization	
baiting	
balanced budget	
ballot	
ballot box	
ballot box stuffing	
ballot proposition	
bandwagon	
Beltway, the	
bias	
bicameral legislature	
bill	
Bill of Rights	
bipartisan	
boondoggle	
budget	
cabinet	
campaign	
campaign spending limits	
canvas	
caucus	
challenger	
checks and balances	
City Council	
City Manager	
coalition	
closed primary	
coattails	
Congress	
Congressional District	
conservative	



constituent	
Constitution (U.S.)	
convention	
cosponsor	
county	
County Clerk	
County Commissioner	
dark horse	
debate	
declare	
deficit	
delegate	
democracy	
Democratic Party	
direct primary	
Election Day	
electoral college	
electoral vote	
electronic voting	
enact	
entitlement	
ethics	
Executive Branch	
exit poll	
Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA)	
Federal Election Commission (FEC)	
fiscal year (FY)	
front-runner	
gerrymander	
GOP	
governor	
grass roots	
Green Party	
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	
Gross National Product (GNP)	
hard money	
House of Representatives	
inauguration	
incumbent	



independent	
initiative	
Judicial Branch	
lame duck	
landslide	
left	
left wing	
Legislative Branch	
liberal	
Libertarian Party	
Lieutenant Governor	
line-item veto	
lobby	
lobbyist	
machine	
Majority Leader	
majority party	
matching funds	
Mayor	
Member of Congress	
midterm election	
Minority Leader	
minority party	
Motor-Voter Law	
mudslinging	
national debt	
negative ads	
nominate	
nominee	
nonpartisan	
open primary	
partisan	
petition	
platform	
plurality	
pocket veto	
Political Action Committee (PAC)	
politician	
"Politics makes strange bedfellows"	



poll	
pork barrel	
precinct	
President of the Senate	
President of the United States	
President Pro Tempore	
primary election	
progressive	
propaganda	
proportional representation	
public funding	
public office	
quorum	
Reagan Democrat	
reapportionment	
recount	
redistricting	
referendum	
Reform Party	
registration	
Republican Party	
revenues	
right	
right wing	
roll call	
running mate	
runoff election	
Secretary of State	
Senate	
seniority	
separation of powers	
Social Security	
soft money	
sound bite	
Speaker of the House	
special interests	
spin	
split ticket	
State Legislature	
State Representative	



State Senator	
states' rights	
statute	
straight ticket	
strategy	
straw vote, straw poll	
stump speech	
subcommittee	
suffrage	
super delegate	
Super Tuesday	
Supreme Court	
surplus	
swing voter	
tally	
term	
term limits	
territory	
third party	
"throw your hat in the ring"	
ticket	
uncommitted delegate	
unicameral legislature	
U.S. Representative	
U.S. Senator	
veto	
Vice President of the United States	
"vote with your feet"	
voter turnout	
Voting Rights Act of 1965	
war chest	
ward	
wedge issue	
Whip	
whistle stop	