

BENCHMARK SS.7.C.2.10

Strand	C Civics and Government
Reporting Category	Government Policies and Political Processes
Standard	Evaluate the roles, rights, and responsibilities of U.S. citizens, and determine methods of active participation in society, government, and the political system.
Benchmark	SS.7.C.2.10 Examine the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on monitoring and influencing government.
Benchmark Clarifications	<p>Students will identify the methods used by interest groups to monitor and/or influence the government.</p> <p>Students will identify the methods used by the media to monitor and/or influence the government.</p> <p>Students will evaluate the impact of media, individuals, and interest groups on the government.</p> <p>Students will identify and evaluate methods of influencing and/or monitoring government.</p>
Content Limit	Items should only focus on the significant methods used involving media, interest groups, and individuals that have influenced the government.
Stimulus Attribute	Items addressing the impact of the media, individuals, and interest groups may use historical and contemporary documents and other relevant stimuli (e.g., maps, timelines, charts, graphs, tables).
Content Focus	These terms are given in addition to those found in the standards, benchmarks, and benchmark clarifications. Additional items may include, but are not limited to, the following: lobbying, lobbyist, political action committee, special interest, and watchdog.

Sample Item 16 **SS.7.C.2.10** **Content Focus** Influencing Government

Based on the government system in the United States, which individual activity is used to directly influence legislative decisions?

- A. watching political debates on television
- B. discussing political issues at work
- C. collecting opinions for a yearbook
- ★ D. gathering signatures for a petition