Discussion Sheet #4: *Legislatures and Legislating*

**What?** Please read and respond to the fourth reading in *PRIMIS, State and Local Legislatures*

**How?** Use the form and space below (5 points)

**When?** You should be prepared to discuss this on Monday but the entire week will be taken up with the topic. Due in class, *Friday, May 2*. Tina Empol will be in class on Wednesday.

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**Legislating:**

1. Any discussion of legislating and legislatures must focus on how representation is organized------districting and apportionment. Briefly explain the *redistricting revolution* that has occurred over the past 40 years---what was the revolution? Why? What have been the effects of the revolution?

2. Briefly provide a definition and illustration (try to use an Oregon example) of the primary functions of state legislatures:
3. Focus on the section on *Legislative Politics* (plus the Oregon Blue Book section on the Legislative Assembly: [http://bluebook.state.or.us/state/legis/legis01.htm](http://bluebook.state.or.us/state/legis/legis01.htm)). What seem to be the key factors shaping and determining the politics of state legislatures? What resources and skills seem to be most important in shaping who controls legislative politics?