

Florida's Voice

Identify the people who represent Florida in Congress.

SS.5.CG.2.5 "Identify individuals who represent the citizens of Florida at the national level."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each person who represents Florida citizens at the national level. Circle the U.S. office title connected to each person.

Representing Florida in Congress

- ① At the national level, Congress makes federal laws. Congress has two parts, the Senate and the House of Representatives. Every state has two U.S. senators. Florida's senators are Ashley Moody and Rick Scott. Both represent the whole state, so each senator speaks for Floridians from every city, town, and county. They vote on national laws and other Senate business.
- ② Florida also sends members to the U.S. House of Representatives. The state is divided into congressional districts, and each district elects one U.S. representative. Darren Soto represents Florida's 9th Congressional District in the House. Unlike a senator, he represents people who live in one district. People he represents are called constituents. They can contact his office about federal issues.
- ③ Do not confuse national representatives with officials who serve only Florida. A state senator works in the Florida Legislature in Tallahassee. A U.S. senator or U.S. representative serves in Congress in Washington, D.C. To identify a person who represents Florida citizens nationally, check the person's title and the place where that person serves. A U.S. representative's district is another useful clue.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Which two people are Florida's U.S. senators?

2 Do Florida's U.S. senators represent only one district or the whole state? Use information from the passage.

3 Who represents Florida's 9th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives?

4 Which office serves Florida citizens in Congress, a state senator or a U.S. senator? Where does that office serve?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly three sentences. A resident of Florida's 9th Congressional District wants Congress to consider a federal school lunch law. Name Darren Soto and one Florida U.S. senator the resident could contact, and explain why each person represents that resident at the national level.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each person who represents Florida citizens at the national level. Circle the U.S. office title connected to each person. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two people are Florida's U.S. senators?	Ashley Moody and Rick Scott.
2	Do Florida's U.S. senators represent only one district or the whole state? Use information from the passage.	They represent the whole state of Florida, including people from every city, town, and county.
3	Who represents Florida's 9th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives?	Darren Soto.
4	Which office serves Florida citizens in Congress, a state senator or a U.S. senator? Where does that office serve?	A U.S. senator serves Florida citizens in Congress. The office serves in Congress in Washington, D.C.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A resident of Florida's 9th Congressional District could contact U.S. Representative Darren Soto about a federal school lunch law. Soto represents people who live in the 9th District in Congress. The resident could also contact U.S. Senator Ashley Moody because she represents Floridians across the state in Congress.

Accept Ashley Moody or Rick Scott as the senator in the open response. Students should identify Darren Soto as the district representative and explain that a U.S. senator represents all Florida residents in Congress.