

## Background Article Questions

**Deliberation Topic:** Should the legislative filibuster rule be eliminated in the Senate?

**Directions:** *To provide a background for the deliberation, answer the questions associated with each of the articles.*

### Filibuster and Cloture- *U.S. Senate*

- Describe the origins of the term “filibuster.” What is meant by this?
- How are the rules relating to debate different in the House and the Senate?
- Explain the rules relating to filibusters and debate in the Senate prior to 1917.
- What is meant by “cloture?” How did cloture rules change in the 20th century?
- What specific issues have senators used filibusters for in the past?

## With little fallout from nuclear option, Senate's legislative filibuster is in jeopardy-

*The Washington Post*

- How has the power of the filibuster in the Senate been reduced? What has been the most recent change?
- What is meant by a legislative filibuster?
- How do members of the majority party generally view filibusters?
- How do members of the minority party generally view filibusters?