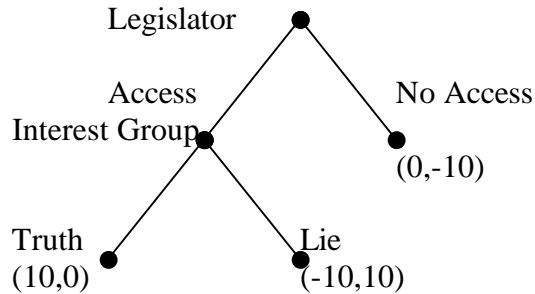


# Political Science 367.01

## Lecture 6 Outline:

### Writing Legislation in Congress

- I. Principal Agent Theory cont.
  - a. What is the principal agent problem?
  - b. What is the general solution?
  - c. Game Theory setup of the Principal-Agent Problem



- d. How do the goals of interest groups and legislators define the payoffs?
  - e. How does the Folk Theorem solve the principal-agent problem?
- II. Discuss next paper topic
  - a. What is pluralism?
  - b. How does the agenda-setting stage fit pluralist ideas?
  - c. What role does the policy entrepreneur play in making pluralism real?
- III. Legislative Stage
  - a. Agenda-setting ends when a member of congress becomes a policy entrepreneur and proposes a bill in congress.
  - b. Legislative Stage takes these bills and winnows them further.
  - c. How does a bill become a law?
    - i. Two phases – committee phase and floor phase
- IV. Committee Stage
  - a. Why are there committees?
  - b. Why are committees and subcommittees important for interest groups?
  - c. What role do interest groups play in the work of committees?
    - i. How does this role illustrate the principal-agent relationship?
    - ii. How does the pluralist notion of equal access fare in the work of committees?
      1. What can the “think tank” reading tell us about this?