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BARRIERS TO SOCIAL MEDIA USE BY CONGRESS

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CONGRESS HAS ADOPTED WEB 2.0 TOOLS

NYU Stern and GWU Business Schools
Report on the Digital IQ of Senators

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John McCain, Twitter genius

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According to a new study, John McCain (R-Ariz.) has the highest 'digital IQ' in the Senate. | [AP Photo](#)

By [MEREDITH SHINER](#) | 8/19/10 6:35 PM EDT

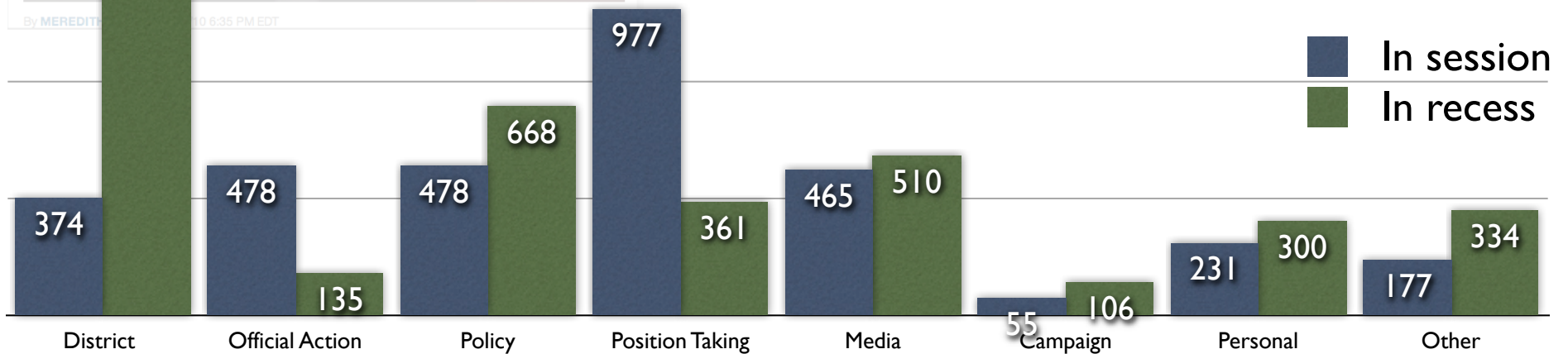
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Member Tweets, by Category

Aug-Sept 2009



Source Social Networking and Constituent Communications: Member Use of Twitter During a Two-Month Period in the 111th Congress, CRS Report # :R41066. <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41066.pdf>

(for the most part)

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Illinois Congressman calls 100 constituents a day

According to a new study...

By MEREDITH SHINER

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Posted: Aug 25, 2010 2:47 PM
Updated: Aug 25, 2010 2:47 PM

Posted by Rich Miller - [email](#)

WASHINGTON (AP) - If you get a phone call from someone identifying himself as United States Congressman Timothy Johnson, it's probably not someone playing a joke.

The Illinois Republican says he personally calls about 100 of his more than 650,000 constituents a day to keep in touch.



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August 21, 2010

The Pulse | A Rarity in Congress: The Social Media Holdout

By DANIEL LIBIT

Constituents of the Seventh Congressional District can read Danny K. Davis's newsletter and show up at his public meetings, but there will be no writing on his wall.

As members of Congress have flocked to social media outlets in recent years, Representative Davis has held out. The seventh-term lawmaker from the Near North Side is the only member of the Illinois delegation without a Facebook fan page, Twitter account, YouTube account, RSS feed or Flickr account.

This social media disconnection is rare in Congress.

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(to keep their job)

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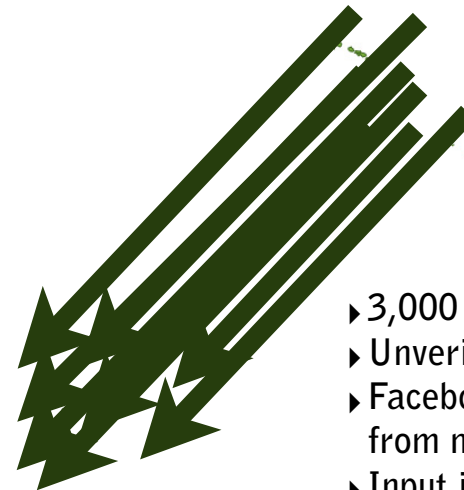
“I looked up any information I could find about the people who were tweeting to my boss. Not a was in my boss’s district. Not one was even within driving distance of my boss’s district!”

- Congressional staffer

THE BROKEN FILTER



44% of Americans contact legislator
82% prompted by a third party

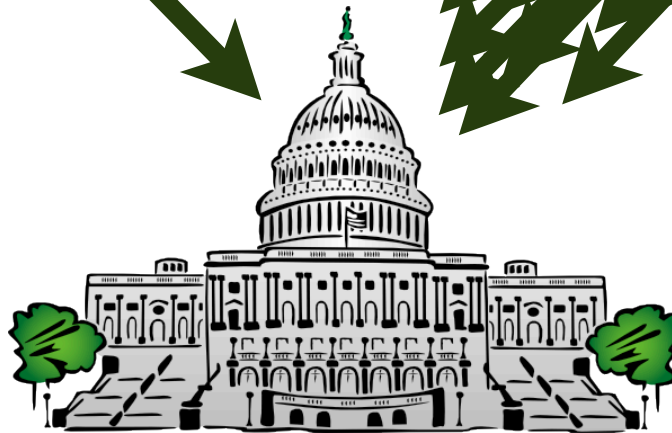
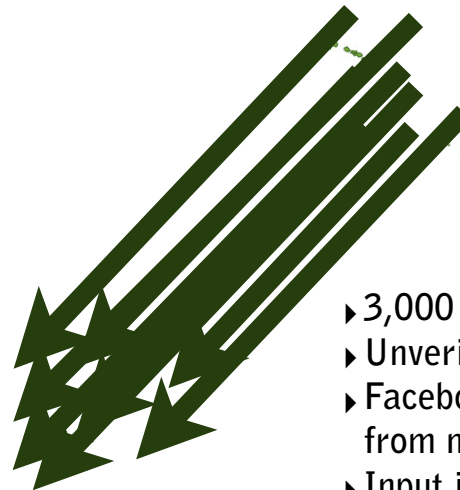


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- ▶ Input is not transparent, measured, or comparable across issue or geographic areas

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(Shouldn't they just listen to me?)

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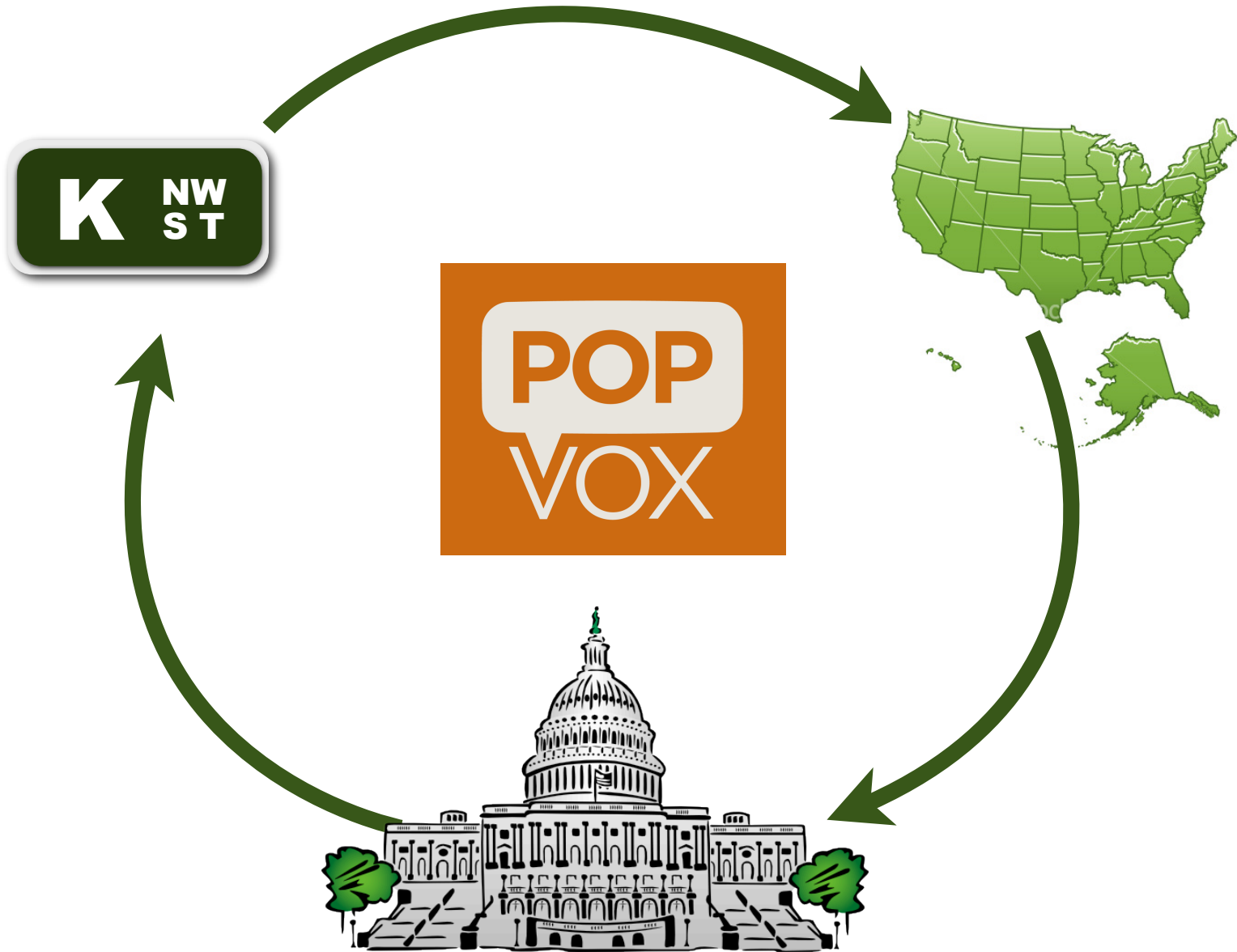
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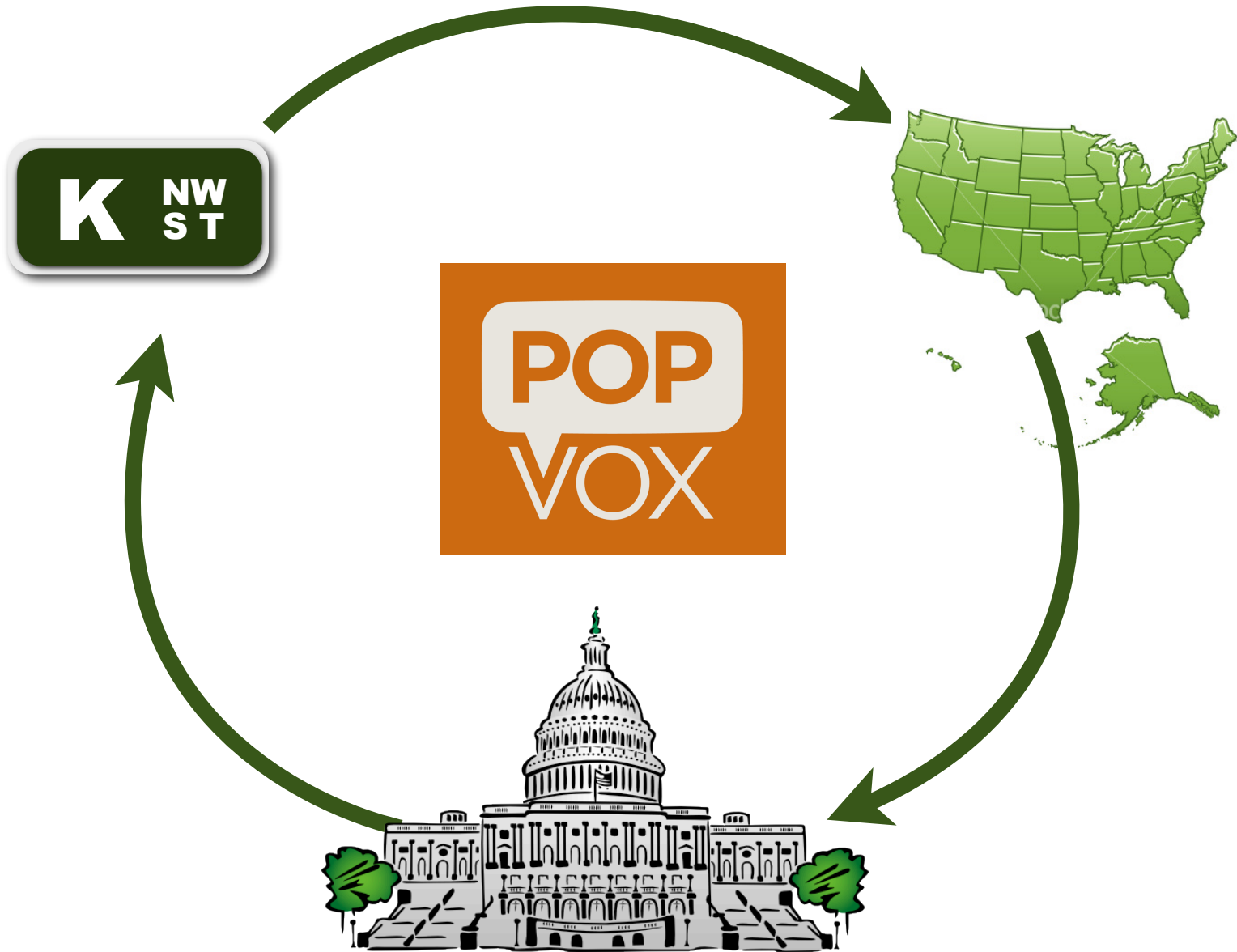
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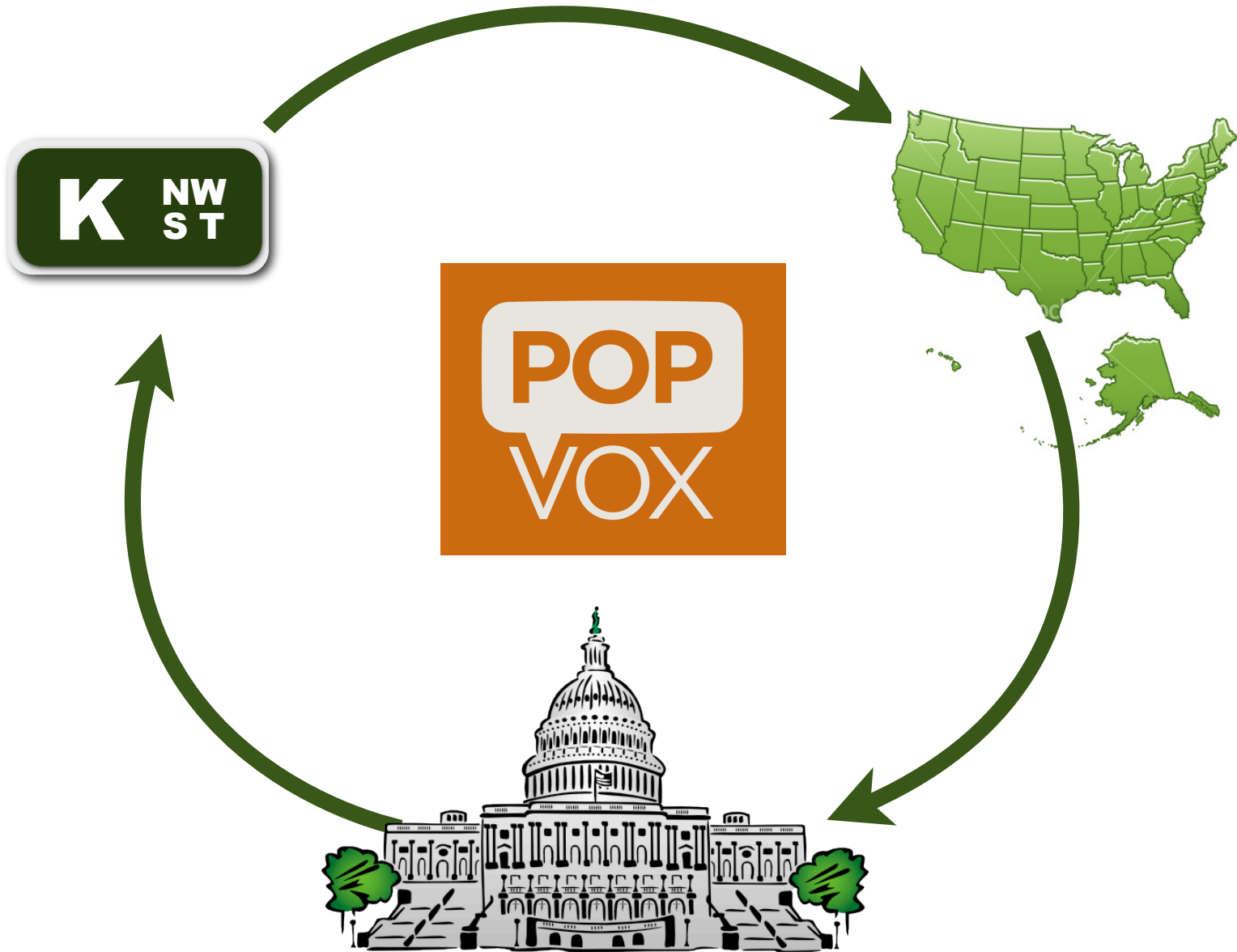
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