Roles of Legislators and Judges Are Different

Legislators and judges play different roles in our system of government. To show you understand this, fill in the chart using the phrases below. Place all phrases that describe concepts/roles of the legislature in the column titled Legislative Branch and all concepts/roles of the judiciary in the column Judicial Branch. All blanks in the chart will not be filled.

Phrase Bank:

Look forward

Look back

Apply precedents

Change laws they don't like

Pursue policy

No educational requirements

Take cases brought to them

Choose problems to work on

Come from a variety of occupations/jobs

Apply the law without regard to personal views

Elected to two or four year terms

Must be learned in law/have license to practice law

Represent interests of constituents

Writes statutes

Writes opinions that explain reasoning

Elected to six year terms

Governor can appoint to fill vacancy

Roles

Legislative Branch	Judicial Branch