

LESSON ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. What are the powers of the president?
2. What role do Executive Offices play?
3. How has the president's power changed over time?
4. How have previous presidents utilized their Constitutional roles?

****Chapters 12 & 14 due 4/20**

April 16-19, 2018

The Office of the President

The Presidential Requirements



Youngest to become
President



Youngest elected
Only Catholic

- **Formal Requirements:**
 - Must be 35 years old
 - Must have resided in U.S. for 14 years
 - Natural born citizen
- **Informal “Requirements”:**
 - White (except Obama)
 - Male
 - Protestant (except JFK)
- Come from all manner of professions, but mostly military or political background

The Presidents



- **Elections: The Normal Road to the White House**
 - Once elected, via the Electoral College, the president serves a term of four years.
 - Most Presidents have been elected to office
 - As opposed to succession
- **22nd Amendment (1951)**
 - limited the number of terms to two
 - 10 yrs. If through succession after midway through term

Table 13.2 Incomplete Presidential Terms

PRESIDENT	TERM	SUCCEEDED BY
William Henry Harrison	March 4, 1841–April 4, 1841	John Tyler
Zachary Taylor	March 4, 1849–July 9, 1850	Millard Fillmore
Abraham Lincoln	March 4, 1865–April 15, 1865 ^a	Andrew Johnson
James A. Garfield	March 4, 1881–September 19, 1881	Chester A. Arthur
William McKinley	March 4, 1901–September 14, 1901 ^a	Theodore Roosevelt
Warren G. Harding	March 4, 1921–August 2, 1923	Calvin Coolidge
Franklin D. Roosevelt	January 20, 1945–April 12, 1945 ^b	Harry S Truman
John F. Kennedy	January 20, 1961–November 22, 1963	Lyndon B. Johnson
Richard M. Nixon	January 20, 1973–August 9, 1974 ^a	Gerald R. Ford

^aSecond term.

^bFourth term.

Succession & Impeachment

- The vice-President succeeds if the president leaves office due to death or resignation or convicted of impeachment
 - Impeachment is investigated by the House, tried by the Senate with the Chief Justice presiding.
 - Only two presidents have been impeached
 - A. Johnson & Clinton- neither was convicted.
 - Nixon resigned after the Watergate Scandal
- **25th Amendment (1967)**
 - Permits the Vice President to become acting president if the President or his cabinet claims he is too disabled
 - Outlines Vice Presidential selection in the case of an empty office
 - Based upon Cold War fears

Article II of the Constitution: Presidential Enumerated Powers

- ◆ **National Security**

- ◆ Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces
- ◆ Make treaties with other nations

- ◆ **Legislative**

- ◆ Veto bills
- ◆ State of the Union Address to Congress
- ◆ Recommend legislation to Congress

- ◆ **Administrative Nominations**

- ◆ “Take care that the laws be faithfully executed”

- ◆ **Judicial Powers**

- ◆ Nominate federal judges
- ◆ Grant reprieves and pardons for federal offenses

Informal Powers

■ Inherent Powers

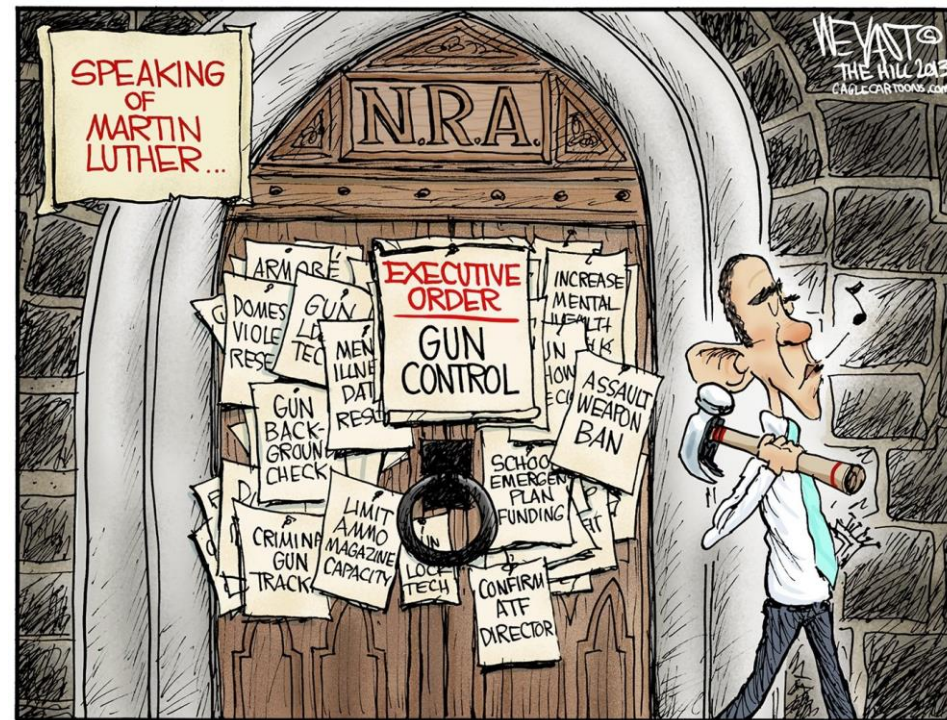
- Derived from loosely-worded statements in the Constitution that state “the executive power shall be vested in the Constitution” and the president should “take care that the laws be faithfully executed”
 - e.g. Louisiana Purchase

■ Executive order

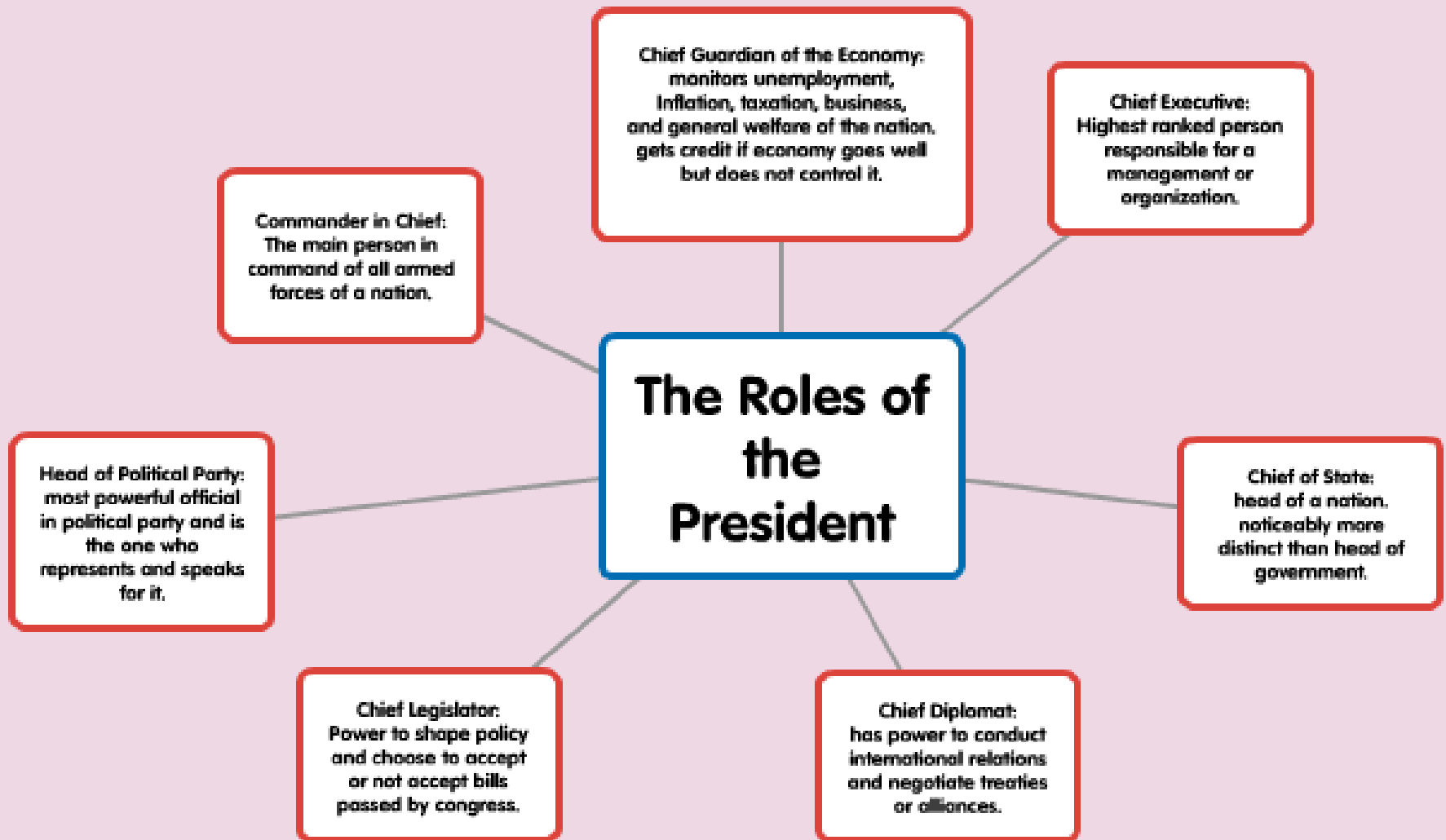
- A presidential order that has the force of law and does not require congressional approval

■ Executive agreement

- A presidential agreement with another country that does not require Senate approval



Roles of the President



The Executive Branch



■ The Vice President

- Few official constitutional duties
- Recent presidents have given their VPs important jobs
 - Foreign relations

■ The Cabinet

- Presidential advisors, not in Constitution
- Is made up of the cabinet secretaries of the federal departments, confirmed by the Senate



Running the Government: The Chief Executive

■ The Executive Office

- Several policymaking and advisory bodies
- NSC, CEA, OMB

■ National Security Council (NSC)

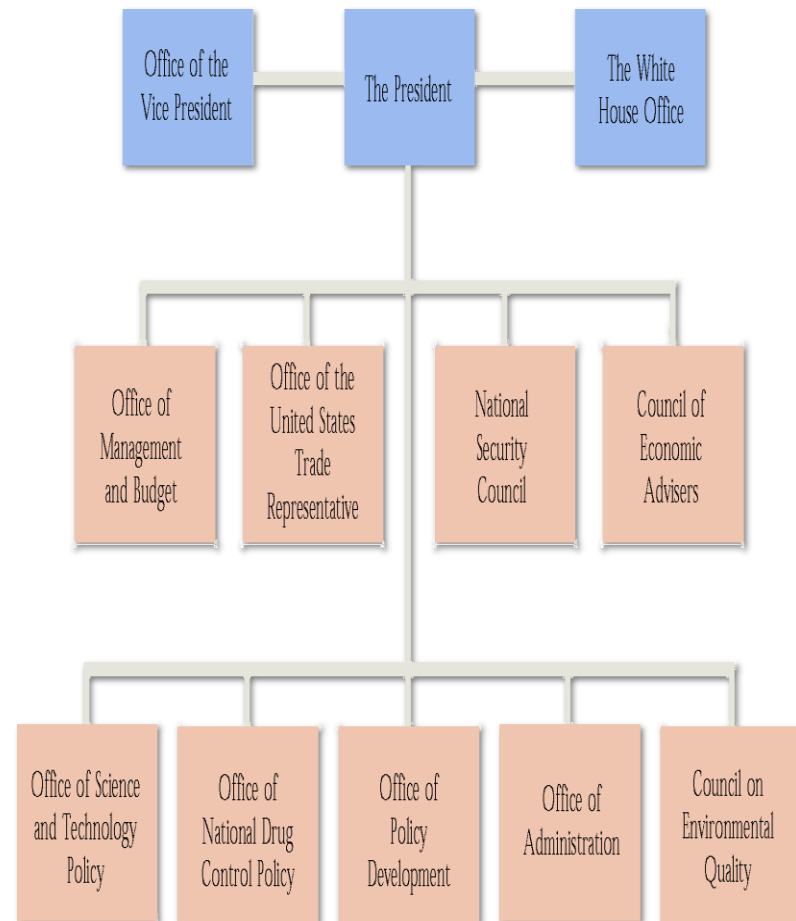
- Links the president's foreign and military policy advisors
- President, Vice President, Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, run by president's national security assistant

■ Council of Economic Advisors (CEA)

- Three members appointed by president
- Advise president on economic policy

■ Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

- Performs managerial and budgetary functions



Running the Government: The Chief Executive

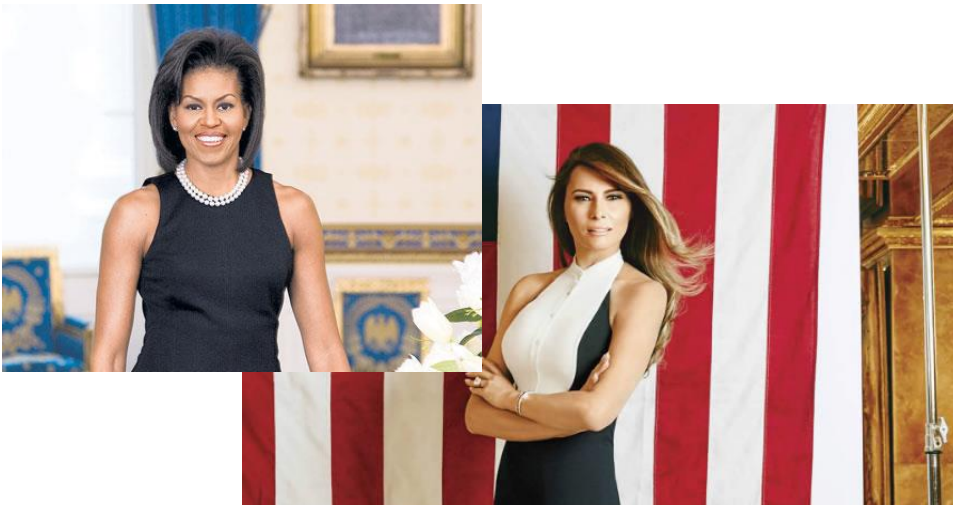


The White House Office

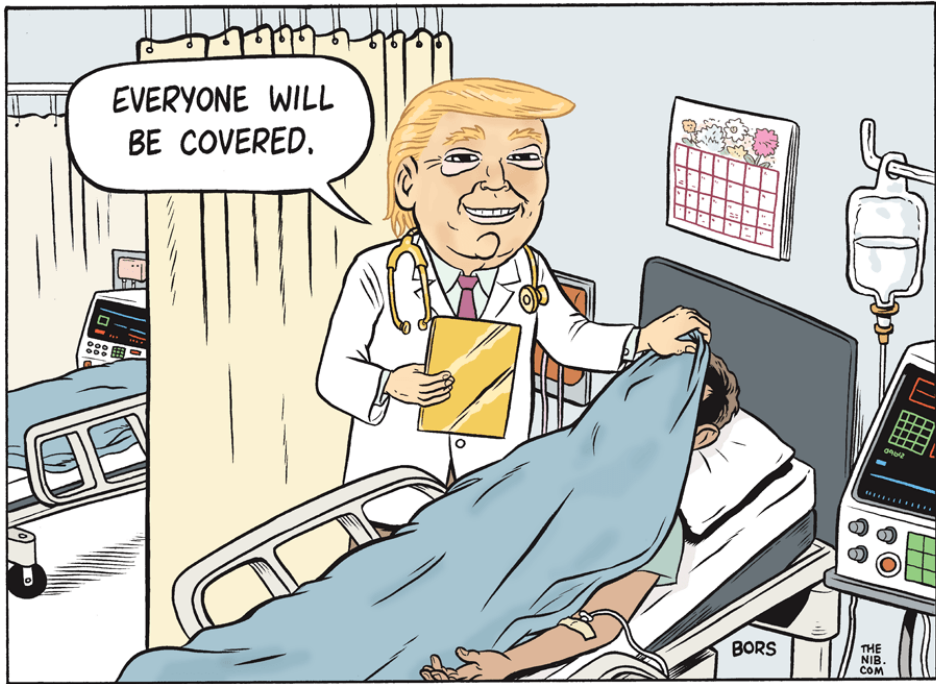
- The White House Staff are the chief aides and staff for the president.
- They are chosen on the basis of their loyalty to the president
- Need not be confirmed by Senate
 - The national security advisor is an example.

The First Lady

- Often takes on single tasks (i.e. Hillary Clinton and government-funded health care)



Presidential Leadership of Congress: The Politics of Shared Powers



Legislative Skills

- Variety of forms: bargaining, making personal appeals, consulting with Congress, setting priorities in the State of the Union address.
- Most important is bargaining with Congress.
- Presidents should use their “honeymoon” period to push new legislation
- Nation’s key agenda builder

Presidential Coattails

US mid-term elections

Seats gained or lost
by president's party

Democrats:

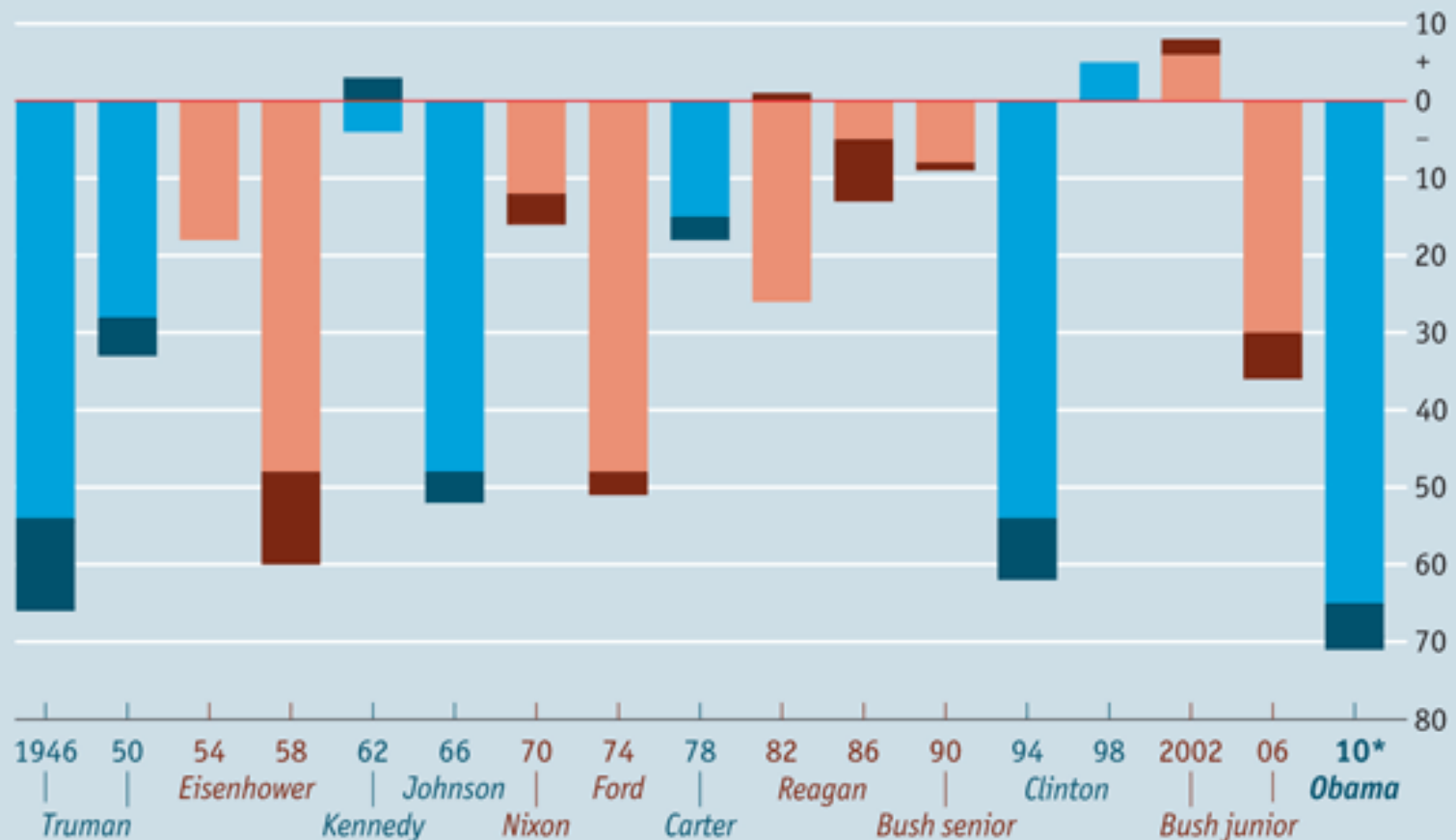
House of
Representatives

Senate

Republicans:

House of
Representatives

Senate



Sources: US Senate; US House of Representatives; Gallup

*Latest projections