

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

v Article II of the U.S. Constitution

v 45 Presidents in our history



President has Several Roles

- v Chief of State – the ceremonial head of the government of the United States
- v Chief Executive – given this title by the Constitution
- v Chief Administrator – carry out the laws, head of the federal bureaucracy
- v Chief Diplomat – main architect of America's foreign policy
- v Commander in Chief – head of the nation's armed forces❖ 1.4 million men and women in uniform
- v Chief Legislator – can push for laws to be passed
- v Chief of Party – Leader of their political party



Qualifications

- v Must be a natural born citizen
- v Be at least 35 years old
 - ❖ Kennedy – youngest ever elected – 43
 - ❖ Teddy Roosevelt – youngest to ever be put in office
 - ❖ Donald Trump – the oldest ever elected to president - 71
- v Lived in the U.S. for at least 14 years



Presidents Term

v George Washington set the precedent for 2 terms

❖ 1 term = 4 years

v Franklin Roosevelt was elected to 4 terms

❖ 1951 – 22nd Amendment – set 2 term limit on President

❖ Person can serve up to 10 years if they take over for a President



Pay and Benefits

- v Congress sets the salary

- ❖ \$400,000 a year and \$50,000 expense account

- v Benefits

- ❖ Live in the White House (132 Rooms)

- ❖ Yacht, Automobiles, Air Force One

- ❖ Camp David – Resort in Maryland

- v Receives a lifetime pension of \$143,800 a year



Section 2

- v Vice President takes over if the President dies, resigns or is removed from office
 - ❖ Has happened 9 times
- v It was an informal amendment until 1967 when the 25th Amendment made it official
- v Presidential Succession Act of 1947-*established the line of succession*
- v Who takes over after the Vice President ?
 - ❖ Speaker of the House –Paul Ryan
 - ❖ President pro tempore –Orrin Hatch
 - ❖ Secretary of State – Rex Tillerson
- v Followed by the other 14 Cabinet Departments



Presidential Disability

v Before the 25th Amendment – there was serious gaps in Presidential Succession

v What if the President is sick or disabled?

v Vice President is to become president if:

❖ President informs Congress in writing he can't perform his duties

❖ V.P. and a majority of the members of the cabinet inform Congress

v President can resume the office by informing Congress no inability exists



Cont.

- v Vice President and majority of cabinet may challenge the President
- ❖ Congress then has 21 days to decide the matter



The Vice Presidency

- v 2 Duties in the U.S. Constitution
 - ❖ President of the Senate
 - ❖ Next in line for president
- v 9 Vice Presidents have had to take over
 - ❖ 8 Presidents have died
 - ❖ 1 resigned
- v Vice President has been vacant 18 times
 - ❖ The 25th Amendment finally dealt with the issue
 - ❖ President can pick his Vice President with majority vote from both houses of Congress



Quotes

- ★ The V.P is the butt of many jokes:
- ★ “ I am Vice-President, in this I am nothing but I may be everything.”
~John Adams
- ★ "The Vice-Presidency isn't worth a pitcher of spit."
- ★ ~ John Nance Garner V.P. to FDR



Ch13 Sec3 Presidential Selection The Framers Plan

Original Constitutional Provisions

v The Framers created an electoral college as an alternative to either popular election or letting Congress decide

v The electoral vote was state by state, with each elector casting votes for two candidates

v A state would have as many presidential electors as it has senators and representatives in Congress

❖ Wisconsin has 10 electoral votes

v The candidate with the most votes became President- runner up became Vice President

v In case of a tie, the House would pick the President



The Impact of Political Parties

v Election of 1800

v Political parties emerged during the administrations of Washington and Adams, each party picked their own candidates and electors

v This led to a tie between Jefferson and Burr in the election of 1800 – the House picked Jefferson

v This election led to the passage of the 12th Amendment – separate ballots for President and Vice President

❖ When the Framers picked the electoral college they hoped the electors would vote on merit but now they vote how their party wants them to vote



Presidential Primaries

v History

- ❖ 1st held in the early 1900's; Reform movement to breakup the bosses – led by Wisconsin

- ❖ 38 States now hold primaries today

v Primaries Today – either or both of 2 things

- ❖ Select delegates to the convention
- ❖ Express preference for a presidential candidate



Who Does the Party Nominate?

- v Incumbent presidents almost always get another nomination if they want it
 - v Most nominees have had political experience and have been popular
- v Most nominees have been governors of larger states
 - v Most have been Protestants, male- only 2 female received the V.P. nomination- 1984 – Geraldine Ferraro, 2008 Sarah Palin
 - v Most are married only 2 were divorced
 - v Ronald Reagan, Adlai Stevenson



- v Total of 538 electoral votes
 - ❖ 435 House; 100 senate; 3 D.O.C.
- v Person must receive 270 electoral votes
 - v Flaws in the Current System
 - ❖ Winner of the Popular Vote may not win the Presidency
 - ❖ Electors are not forced by the Constitution nor federal law to vote for the candidate with the most popular votes in the state
 - ❖ The House could determine the Presidency
 - v Only happened twice 1800/1824
- v Could happen in the future with the rise of 3rd party candidates



Proposed Changes

v Constitutional Amendments to change the electoral college have been tried every term of Congress

v 4 proposed changes

v The District Plan- Electors would be elected in each congressional district, rather than the current winner take all system

v Proportional Plan- Presidential candidates would receive the same share of electoral votes as they received the State's popular vote (this would weaken the 2 party system)

v Direct Popular Election- each citizen's vote would count equal in the election for Presidency



Cont

vNational Bonus Plan- It would keep the electoral college system and award the winner of the popular vote an additional 102 electoral votes for a total of 640 electoral votes

Why do we keep the Electoral College?

--It is a known process and the winner is known very quickly



President's Power

- v Power to appoint cabinet members, diplomats and ambassadors, judges
- v Must be approved by the Senate
- v President can remove any officer he appoints
- v Power to make treaties – formal agreement between two or more sovereign state
 - ❖ Must have 2/3 vote in Senate
- v Executive Agreement – pacts between the President and the heads of foreign states
 - ❖ Do not require Senate consent
- v Recognition – President can acknowledge the legal existence of that country and its government



Military Power

- v Commander in chief
 - v Undeclared War
- ❖ Done over 200 times in our history
 - v Korea (50-53)
 - v Vietnam (1965-73)
 - v Iraq 1991/2003
 - v Congress passed the War Powers Resolution 1973
 - ❖ 90 days



Legislative Powers

- v Recommend Legislation
- v Veto Bills
- v Can call for a special session of Congress



Judicial Powers

v Reprieve – postponement of the execution of a sentence

v Pardon – legal forgiveness of a crime (only involving a federal offense)

❖ Most famous pardon – Ford forgave Richard Nixon (guilty)

v Commutation – reduce the length of a sentence or a fine

v Amnesty – a general pardon offered to a group of violators

❖ 1977 – Pardon to Vietnam War draft evaders



The Cabinet

- v An advisory body to serve the president's needs

- v George Washington's 1st cabinet consisted of

- v Sec of State Thomas Jefferson –

- v Sec of Treasury -Alexander Hamilton

- v Sec of War Henry Knox

- v Attorney General Edmund Randolph –

- v There are now 15 cabinet positions

- ❖ Each cabinet position is chosen by the president and approved by the Senate



Trump's Cabinet

★ **Department of State**
Secretary Rex Tillerson

★ **Department of Commerce**
Secretary Wilbur Ross

Department of the Treasury
Secretary Steven Mnuchin

Department of Labor
Secretary Alex Acosta

Department of Defense
Secretary James Mattis

Department of Health and Human Services

★ Secretary Eric Hargan

Department of Justice
Attorney General Jeff Sessions

★

★ **Department of the Interior**
Secretary Ryan Zinke

★ **Department of Agriculture**
Secretary Sunny Perdue



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★ **Department of Housing and
Urban Development**
Secretary Ben Carson

★ **Department of Education**
Secretary Becky DeVos

**Department of
Transportation**
Secretary Elaine Chao

**Department of Veterans
Affairs**
Secretary David Shulkin

Department of Energy
Secretary Rick Perry

**Department of Homeland
Security**
Secretary Elaine Duke



Women and Minorities

v Francis Perkins – 1st woman appointed to a cabinet position – 1933 Sec of Labor

v Robert Weaver – 1st African American; Sec of Housing and Urban Development - 1966

