

# HOW THE PRESIDENT ENFORCES AND INFLUENCES THE LAW

Executive order (XO): allows the president to implement a policy without the usual Congressional approval and up to the Exec. branch to enforce and implement. They are not laws (because those require Congress) but are treated as such.

However, these can still be deemed unconstitutional by the SC, and cannot reach into Congress-exclusive territory, such as the tax code.

The last point is that these are numbered, for example, XO9066 is the one that FDR implemented for Japanese internment.

Signing statements: allows the President to give input on how they interpret a bill (or if they just don't like it). The President cannot change the wording of a bill once it is passed to them however they can often comment. This has become far more common than it used to, just like most powers of the Presidency.

These comments are not official, however, they can be used against or for a certain bill in the SC and in other circumstances.

There has been recent criticism on this, stating that it gives the President too much power during the final stage of a Bill's journey to law.

According to the Library of Congress, the President is told to

- A. Uphold the Constitution
- B. Veto or shoot down bills that would not be in our best interest or were ill advised.
- C. Enforce, uphold and implement the laws once they are put into place

Therefore, they may [?] have such power. Am pretty sure this is an informal power as this is not mentioned anywhere.

Executive privilege: allows the President to withhold information from other portions of the government, usually Congress. This is an expressly granted power somewhere in the Constitutional, and is generally agreed to be protective of confidentiality and that it's an example of sep. of powers.

This was put to the test in the Watergate scandal where Nixon was ordered to hand over some secret tapes that would tie him back to the scandal. He fired back, saying that the tapes were secret from Congress and therefore under Ex. Privilege.

The courts called bullshit and ruled against Nixon, forcing him to hand the tapes over.