

# EXECUTIVE BRANCH

## REQUIREMENTS

- Be at least 35
- Be a U.S. resident for at least 14 years
- Must be natural born to the U.S.

## BASIC POWERS

- Suggest legislation (including budget)
- Veto bills
- Sign bills into law
- Call the houses of Congress
- Force everyone into recess (Congress)
- Command the nationwide military
- To pardon a criminal
- Make and negotiate treaties (but cannot pass them without Senate approval)

## MISC

- The Presidency itself is created by Article II and the AM that has the Electoral College attached to it (A5, 5\*AM, Supreme Court decisions, former presidents, etc. all shaped the presidency too)
- The early days of the Presidency were of mostly limited powers and abiding by Congress, with minimal uses of veto and other powers.
- Over time, as national crises have threatened to tear the nation apart, the imperial presidency [key term] has somewhat taken over, with the President being granted some powers in times of emergency for quick decision making.
- Some of the events that have lead to increases in presidential power are: secession of southern states, the U.S. entering the world stage, and the Great Depression.
- This has however led to misuses of power, such as the creation of Japanese internment camps.
- Issue XOs

## KEY TERMS

Policy agenda: a list of important issues a President intends to address during their time in office and one that often results in the President attempting to obtain more power.

Imperial presidency: a Presidency defined by greater powers and expectations of strong leadership.

Formal powers: powers expressly granted to the President

Informal powers: powers that are implicitly given to the President in order to carry out their duties as well as extending their formal powers.

Executive Order or XO: a numbered directive issued by the President that can expire (and is also fair game for the supreme court). Formal power. Can last through multiple terms (and usually incoming presidents review previously made XOs). Bound by the law until cancelled or shot down.

#### LIMITING TYRANNY

Obviously this idea did not sit well with anti federalists, so in order to have a country at all these safeguards or measures were put in place to prevent a President milking their powers and creating tyranny. NOT ALL measures were placed at the time of framing.

- Allowing Congress to impeach the president and try them for high crimes
- Requiring appointees to go through Congress
- Allowing the Supreme court to check the Exec. branch
- Establishing term limits [2] and term duration [4yr]
- Creating the  $\frac{2}{3}$  override for vetoes