

OTHER PEOPLE STICKING THEIR NOSES IN BUREAUCRATIC STUFF

While Congress can create and legislate subdivisions and the executive branch can put in new heads for the subdivisions and oversee them, there are far more players interacting with these subdivisions. Industries, interest groups, the people who work in the subdivisions, Congresspeople who fund the subdivisions, the President who they are technically serving under, etc.

Some of this interaction is necessary however, such as ensuring that these subdivisions do not overstep their powers (as they are mostly unelected and are still given rule making authority). When Congress does this, it is known as **congressional oversight**. There are regulators placed in committees within Congress that can call the people who work in these subdivisions up to testify, sometimes as a routine procedure and sometimes as a way to resolve a dispute regarding boundaries.

Congress also funds these subdivisions, which means that to some extent the subdivisions must suck up to Congress (with failure to do so coming at the cost of funding). When Congress uses its power to regulate the flow of money, this is called the **power of the purse**. Congress can revoke a subdivision's **authorization of spending**, which means they can't spend any public money (that money is known as **appropriations**, which are sometimes accounted for during Congressional budgeting time).