KEY TERMS:

Formal powers - like express powers, in that they are explicitly granted.

Informal powers - the powers granted to an individual that are used to use formal powers or otherwise carry out their duty

Power of Persuasion - when Presidents use any technique in an attempt to get Congress to pass legislation that they are in favor of (obtain their policy agenda), whether it be salesman tactics or personally addressing representatives or threatening to veto something unfavorable.

Pocket veto - a decision by the president to not sign a bill into law but not veto it either during the last 10 or so days in a Congressional session, allowing it to expire.

Line-item veto - a decision by the President to veto a part of the bill (usually involving spending) but not kill it entirely. Line-item implies that the President can cherry pick certain provisions to remove. This is also a thing in other countries, but under different rules.

MANY OF THE NOTES ON THESE PAGES ARE LOCATED IN THE LECTURE NOTES FOR EXEC. BRANCH.

CLINTON v. THE CITY OF NEW YORK

* Clinton proposed cuts to NYC
* NYC sued thus starting the case
* NYC argued that it is Congress, not the President, who holds the power of the purse and that the President had overstepped their powers.
* This put into question whether or not the line-item veto was constitutional (because it allowed the President to modify fiscal bills)
* Eventually, 6-3 in favor of NYC.

PANAMA EXAMPLE

* Theo Roosevelt (TR) used his power of persuasion to get a treaty passed thru the Senate that states acquire the Panama canal from Colombia, however, Colombia was fairly unhappy.
* At the time Panama wanted independence from Colombia. This meant that by going with this treaty, they would buy the Panama land and thus support the new government that Colombia didn’t like.
* Private entities began bribing officials to let the rebellion go through, and eventualy TR sent a gunboat there to show support for the rebels.
* This was of course controversial, with some viewing it as piracy and TR viewing it as quick and decisive action that Congressional debate would have stalled.
* At one point Panama tried to kick the U.S. out with a protest and U.S. troops were deployed, 20 student protesters and leaders were killed. That day is called Martyrs Day there, and eventually they broke off relations with the U.S. until they got a new treaty.
* Jimmy Carter gave the canal back afterwards because it was in the world’s best interest.
* This is a very real and poor example of the big stick policy by TR.