

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is overlaid on the left side of the flag, containing the text.

Three Branches of Government

Introduction to the three branches of government.

Three Branches of Government Summarized

- Delegates to the Constitutional Convention were determined to establish a government that was not singularly controlled but with a distribution of power across several sectors. These parameters forged a system of checks and balances and the birth of three branches of government: executive, legislative, and judicial.
- <http://www.3branchesofgovernment.com/>

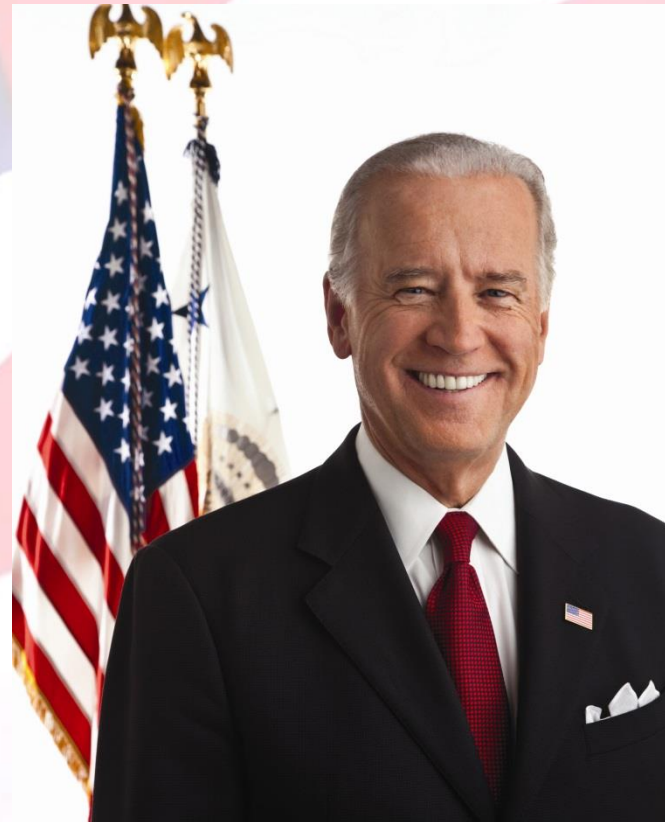
Executive Branch

- As head of the executive branch, the President of the United States serves as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces and as the liaison with other heads of state. The President is also the highest ranking law enforcement officer in the country and signs bills into law. He also was given the power to veto bills. It was decreed that the President would be elected by the people for a term of 4 years.
- <http://www.3branchesofgovernment.com/executive-branch/>



The Vice-President

- The Vice-President is first successor to the presidency if the President is unable to serve. He also has a role in Congress, represents the President in conferring with other heads of state, and is called upon to fill in for the President at state functions and events.



Legislative Branch

- This section of our government includes the Senate and the House of Representatives, collectively known as Congress, which is empowered to enact legislation, declare war, confirm or reject Presidential appointments, and conduct background investigations.
- <http://www.3branchesofgovernment.com/legislative-branch/>

Senators and Representatives

- Both Senators and Representatives have to be elected to Congress; Senators have 6-year terms and Representatives are elected to 2-year terms. Two Senators represent each state. The number of Representatives varies according to the population of each state and right now stands at 435. The Vice-President serves as President of the Senate, while the Speaker of the House, elected by the Representatives, presides over that chamber.

The background of the slide is a stylized American flag, featuring a blue field with white stars in the upper left and red and white stripes in the lower right.

House and the Senate

- Only the House can initiate revenue bills, impeach federal officials, and elect the President in the case of an electoral college tie. The Senate's exclusive powers include confirming Presidential appointments, such as judges and ambassadors, and ratifying treaties with other nations.
- Both the House and the Senate must pass the same bill by majority vote in order to send it to the President for his signature. If the President vetoes a bill, Congress may override his veto by passing the bill again in each chamber with at least two-thirds' majority of each body.

Judicial Branch



- The Constitution established the judicial branch of government with the creation of the Supreme Court. As the highest court in the country, the Supreme Court is charged with interpreting the Constitution, reviewing laws, and deciding cases involving states' rights. When the Supreme Court convenes to determine whether a law violates the Constitution, known as judicial review, it epitomizes the system of checks and balances that was crucial in the development of the new government. By reviewing laws enacted by Congress and signed by the President, the judiciary has final say on the laws' validity.
- <http://www.3branchesofgovernment.com/judicial-branch/>

Supreme Court Justices



- There are 9 Supreme Court Justices. All Justices are nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate after exhaustive hearings. One judge serves as Chief Justice, also appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

Constitutional Congress Delegates

- It is a tribute to the Constitutional Congress delegates that the three branches of government they envisioned still functions more than 200 years later.

