**THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH – A VERY BIG BRANCH**

**A. Guided Notes**. As you read the PDF labeled “Executive – A Very Big Branch,” answer the following questions for your notes by filling in the blank space. The questions go in order.

**We’ve Got a Job to Do**

1. What is the role of the executive branch? \_\_\_to carry out the laws that the legislative branch passes\_\_
2. Who is the head of the executive branch? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Which branch is the largest in our government? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Help From Many**

1. What are the main organizations in the executive branch called? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. How many departments are there? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the leader of a department called? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the one exception to this naming system? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Why is the Cabinet important? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. How are independent agencies different from other executive departments and agencies?

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**Carrying Out Laws: Enforcement**

1. Some executive agencies enforce the laws. What does this mean? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Carrying Out Laws: Regulations**

1. Some laws are instructions to the executive branch to decide how to do something. What are the rules that the executive branch makes about how laws will be carried out called? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Agencies Enforce & Regulate**

1. What is an example of a law in this section? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Which agency would carry out this law? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is a regulation, or rule, that this agency might create in order to carry out this law? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Maintaining Order & Safety**

1. Which department protects us from threats like terrorism and natural disasters? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What are two agencies, or groups, within this department? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Which is the biggest department in the executive branch? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Busy, Busy**

18) Who is the nation’s largest employer? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**B. Cabinet Departments.** Use the word bank to fill in the missing words from the graphic organizer below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Attorney | Armed | Basic needs | College |
| Highway | ~~Countries~~ | Farmers | Military |
| Homes | Money | Fuel | Public lands |
| Wages | Terrorists | Trade | Court |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1) SECRETARY OF STATE** | **2) SEC. OF THE TREASURY** | **3) SECRETARY OF DEFENSE** |
| Department of State | Department of the Treasury | Department of Defense |
| Manages our relationships with foreign \_\_countries\_\_\_. | Collects taxes, prints \_\_money\_\_\_, deals with the nation’s finances. | Manages the \_\_armed\_\_\_ forces and conducts wars overseas. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **4) \_\_ATTORNEY\_ GENERAL** | **5) SEC. OF THE INTERIOR** | **6) SEC. OF AGRICULTURE** |
| Department of Justice | Department of the Interior | Department of Agriculture |
| Fights crime and runs the federal \_\_court\_\_ system. | Manages and protects the nation’s \_\_\_public lands\_\_\_ and resources. | Works with \_\_farmers\_\_\_\_ and regulates farm products. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **7) SECRETARY OF COMMERCE** | **8) SECRETARY OF LABOR** | **9) SEC. OF TRANSPORTATION** |
| Department of Commerce | Department of Labor | Department of Transportation |
| Supervises \_\_trade\_\_\_ and promotes US businesses. | Helps workers get fair \_\_\_wages\_\_ and working conditions. | Oversees \_\_highway\_\_\_ safety and air, rail, and sea travel. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **10) SECRETARY OF ENERGY** | **11) SEC. OF EDUCATION** | **12) SEC. VETERANS AFFAIRS** |
| Department of Energy | Department of Education | Dept. of Veterans Affairs |
| Researches sources of \_\_\_fuel\_\_\_\_ and electricity for the nation. | Gives money for K-12 schools and student \_\_\_college\_\_\_\_ loans. | Provides services for people who served in the \_\_\_military\_\_\_. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **13) SEC. OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES** | **14) SEC. OF HOMELAND SECURITY** | **15) SEC. OF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT** |
| Dept. of Health & Human Services | Dept. of Homeland Security | Dept. of H.U.D. |
| Gives services for Americans’ health and \_\_basic needs\_\_. | Protects against \_\_\_terrorists\_\_\_ and other threats. | Creates strong communities and affordable \_\_\_homes\_\_\_\_. |

**C. Who Said That?** Identify which secretary might give the following advice or information. Use the chart in Part B to help you with this.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **QUOTE** | **SECRETARY OF…** |
| 1) “We need to invest in more solar electricity.” | Energy |
| 2) “We saw a decrease in highway deaths this year.” | Transportation |
| 3) “Agents intercepted a terrorist threat this morning.” | Homeland Security |
| 4) “It’s time to take the penny out of circulation.” | Treasury |
| 5) “We need to combat bark beetles in the national forest.” | Interior |

**D. Whose Job Is It, Anyway?** Identify which executive department would most likely execute or carry out each act (law passed by Congress).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **QUOTE** | **DEPARTMENT OF…** |
| **1) The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (2010)**  Makes it easier for Americans to be covered by health insurance and get medical attention. | Health & Human Services |
| **2) The Veterans Educational Assistance Act (2008)**  Increases educational benefits for military veterans who have served since Sept. 11, 2001. | Veterans Affairs |
| **3) Protect America Act (2007)**  Provides the intelligence community tools to gather important information about terrorists. | Homeland Security |
| **4) Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act (1994)**  Increases the number of police officers, funding for prisons, and crime prevention programs. | Justice |
| **5) No Child Left Behind Act (2001)**  Ensures that students in every public school achieve important learning goals by well-prepared teachers. | Education |
| **6) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (2009)**  Gives funds to projects like ones that support improving roads, bridges, and other public structures. | Transportation |
| **7) The Clean Air Act (1963)**  Controls air pollution on a national level. | Interior |