

GOVLEARN

THE PRESIDENCY

WHAT DOES THE PRESIDENT DO?

- **“THE EXECUTIVE POWER SHALL BE VESTED IN A PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. HE SHALL HOLD HIS OFFICE DURING THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, AND, TOGETHER WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT, CHOSEN FOR THE SAME TERM, BE ELECTED”**
- ARTICLE 2, SECTION 1 OF THE CONSTITUTION
- **THE PRESIDENT SERVES A FOUR YEAR TERM, AND MAY CHOOSE TO SEEK ANOTHER FOUR YEARS, BUT MAY NOT SERVE PAST TWO TERMS AS PRESIDENT**
- **THE PRESIDENT IS THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES, MEANING THEY EXERCISE SUPREME CONTROL OVER THE ARMED FORCES**
- **THE PRESIDENT HAS THE POWER TO APPOINT MEMBERS OF THE CABINET**
- **THE PRESIDENT CAN BE REMOVED THROUGH IMPEACHMENT**



COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

- **THE PRESIDENT POSSESSES ULTIMATE AUTHORITY, BUT NO OFFICIAL RANK, AND MAINTAINS CIVILIAN STATUS**
- **THE DEGREE OF POWER THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF HOLDS HAS BEEN DISPUTED BY MANY CONSTITUTIONAL LAW EXPERTS, WITH CONGRESS GRANTING THE PRESIDENT MORE POWER IN SOME CIRCUMSTANCES, AND LESS IN OTHERS**



THE POWER OF APPOINTMENT

- **THE PRESIDENT POSSESSES THE POWER TO APPOINT INDIVIDUALS TO THE CABINET AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT (EOP)**
- **APPOINTMENTS TO THE EOP DO NOT REQUIRE CONFIRMATIONS FROM THE SENATE, BUT CABINET APPOINTMENTS DO**
- **THE SENATE CONFIRMS A NOMINEE TO THE CABINET BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY (MORE THAN 50%)**



IMPEACHMENT

- **THE PRESIDENT CAN BE IMPEACHED BY 2/3 OF THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE FOR HIGH CRIMES, MISDEMEANORS, TREASON, AND BRIBERY**
- **IMPEACHMENT HAS BEEN A VERY CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE IN US HISTORY AND RIGHT NOW, AS IT HAS BEEN USED FOR POLITICAL REASONS INSTEAD OF LEGAL REASONS**
- **NO PRESIDENT HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM OFFICE VIA IMPEACHMENT, BUT TWO HAVE BEEN IMPEACHED BY THE HOUSE: ANDREW JOHNSON AND BILL CLINTON**



EXECUTIVE ORDERS

- **THE PRESIDENT CAN WRITE EXECUTIVE ORDERS, WHICH IS A DIRECTIVE THAT MANAGES THE OPERATIONS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND HAS THE FORCE OF LAW**
- **THEY CAN BE CANCELED, REVOKED, ADJUDICATED UNLAWFUL, OR EXPIRE ON THEIR OWN TERMS**
- **A NEW PRESIDENT TYPICALLY REVIEWS ENFORCED EXECUTIVE ORDERS AT THE BEGINNING OF THEIR TERM**



SIMULATION

WRITE YOUR OWN EXECUTIVE ORDER. IF YOU COULD MAKE ANY LAW OR INITIATIVE, WHAT WOULD YOU DO? WOULD IT BE REVOKED, AND FOR WHAT REASON?