Article 2

The Executive Branch
Article 2: The Executive Branch

★ The Executive Branch enforces laws & carries out policy

★ Qualifications - President must be:
  ★ Natural-born citizen
  ★ Resident of U.S. for 14 years
  ★ At least 35 years old.

★ Term of Office – the president will serve a 4 year term
Presidential Line of Succession

President → Vice President → Speaker of the House → President pro tempore of the Senate
Presidential Roles

Constitutional Roles

- Appoints Govt. Officials
- Commander-in-Chief
- Grants Pardons & reprieves
- Recommends legislation
- State of the Union
- Executes Federal law & Programs
- Receives Ambassadors
- May call special sessions of congress

Extra-Constitutional Roles

- World Leader
- Voice of the People
- Director of Emergency Activity
- Manager of Economic Prosperity
- Head of Political Party
Article 2: The Executive Branch: Powers of the President

- Legislative and Judicial Powers

- The President proposes a complete legislative agenda – Congress retains the authority to pass laws
- President has the Power to nominate judges – Senate must approve.
Diplomatic Powers

- President Directs Foreign Policy
- Congress tends to follow the President’s recommendations
Article 2: The Executive Branch: Powers of the President

Military Powers

- President is Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.
- Can listen to advisors or take direct control.
Spending Powers

Congress raises $, President collects & spends them.

Precedent set that President decides which programs will receive funds
Article 2: The Executive Branch: Powers of the President

★ Economic Powers

★ President plans Govt. Budget thru Office of Management & Budget.

★ Makes annual report to Congress on the state of the nation’s economy.
Article 2: The Executive Branch: Powers of the President

★ Party Leader

★ President head of their political party
★ Appoints party members to office.
★ Major fund-raisers
★ Support of the party essential to success of their agenda.
Article 2: The Executive Branch

★ The role of the Cabinet

★ Heads of the 15 major departments of government
★ Generally are members of the President’s Party
★ Cabinet was more active when govt was smaller
★ President relies on his personal staff more
Article 2: The Executive Branch

★ Executive Office of the President
★ The White House Staff
★ 1,800 experts in various fields
★ Executive Branch / President needs a large staff for assistance.
Bureaucracy: The “Fourth Branch”

• The Bureaucracy is often considered the “Fourth Branch” of Gov’t because of its size.

• The Executive Branch is responsible for carrying out the day to day operations of the federal gov’t.

• That requires millions of people working daily in various departments, bureaus, divisions, and offices.

• This is considered the federal civil service.

• Examples: The U.S. Postal Service, F.B.I.