

THE PRESIDENCY



LET'S GET INTO A PATRIOTIC MOOD, SHALL WE?

- The song, “Hail to the Chief,” is heavily associated with the President. Many consider it his theme music.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JW8AJds1CzI>
- Lyrics: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lk016tqYjk4&list=RDLk016tqYjk4>



FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Take a minute and think back to our unit on the Legislative Branch. What are the formal qualifications for someone to serve in the House of Representatives?
- The Senate?
- What do you think the formal qualifications are in order to be the President of the United States (PotUS)?

FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS TO BE PRESIDENT

- There are three formal qualifications to be President.
 - Be a “natural born Citizen... of the United States.”
 - Be at least 35 years old.
 - “[H]ave been fourteen years a Resident within the United States.”
- Over 100 million Americans fulfill these qualifications today!



THE PRESIDENT'S TERM

- **The President serves a four year term.**
 - The Framers considered a variety of limits on a president's term, including one six or seven year term.
 - Hamilton liked the idea of a four year term, as it was long enough for a President to “have gained experience, demonstrated his abilities, and established stable policies.”
- **Originally, there were no limits on how many terms a President could serve.**
 - Starting with Washington, Presidents refused to seek more than two terms.
 - This “no third term tradition” became an unwritten rule.

What President was the first to break “no third term tradition?”

What year did he break this tradition?

ADDING TERM LIMITS

- In 1940, Franklin Delano Roosevelt broke tradition by seeking, and winning, a third term. He won a fourth term in 1944.
- The 22nd Amendment, passed in 1951, limits a President to being elected twice, and a President cannot serve for more than ten years.
- Some Presidents, including Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, and Reagan have called for a repeal of this amendment.



AMENDMENT XXII

Passed by Congress March 21, 1947. Ratified February 27, 1951.

Section 1.

No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

Section 2.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission to the States by the Congress.

PERKS???

- So we talked about the qualifications to be President...but what does he/she get out of the deal?
 - Well...besides the theme song and cool looking seal...

PRESIDENTIAL PAY

- Who do you think sets the President's salary?
- What do you think the President's salary should be?
- Congress determines the President's yearly salary.
 - In 1789, it was \$25,000.
 - Since 2001, it is \$400,000 a year
- The President is also given a \$50,000 expense allowance. He may spend this money however he wants (yes, he is taxed on this money).

BENEFITS OF BEING THE PRESIDENT

- The White House (132 room mansion situated on 18.3 acres of prime Washington, D.C. real estate).
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mPuQEG19BIM>
- A fleet of automobiles (President Obama's limousines are Cadillacs).
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YeSPICRcpds>



BENEFITS OF BEING THE PRESIDENT

- Air Force One (custom Boeing 747-200).
 - Currently the only 747-200 flown (went into service in 1991).
 - The Pentagon is planning on replacing the current AF-1.



- Camp David (resort hideaway in Maryland)



■ Air Force One Video:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DD7QuVB3Grk>

■ Camp David:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OiMHhmXnKhE>

BENEFITS OF BEING THE PRESIDENT

■ Secret Service

- The best armed and most well trained bodyguards in the history of the world.



■ Marine One

- The President's Personal Helicopter
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=orOgtankPLM>



POLI SCI – 10/30/15

- Objective: SWBAT describe the roles of the President.
- Agenda:
 - CNN Student News
 - Extra Credit Quiz
 - Notes – Roles of President; Role of VP; Succession Act
- HW:
 - ALL LATE WORK IS DUE MONDAY!!!
 - Binder Check – Next Friday



CNN STUDENT NEWS EC QUIZ

Choose 5 of the following questions to answer:

1. What country will end it's "one-child policy"?
2. Paul Ryan was sworn in yesterday as the new what?
3. In what decade did the Gun Free Schools Act pass?
4. What do we do on Saturday night/Sunday morning?
5. Why do we do this?
6. What type of device is created to do a simple task in a very complicated manner and in several steps?
7. List one of the steps that the featured device used.

So, we've talked about what it takes to be President, and the benefits of being the President, but what exactly is his job?

THE PRESIDENT'S ROLES

Chief of State: The President is the ceremonial head of the government of the United States. He is the symbol of the people of the nation.

- **Ex: Patriotic rallies, 4th of July, etc.**



PRESIDENT'S ROLES...

Chief Executive: The President has “the executive power” of the United States. He holds “the most powerful office in the world.”

- Ex: He’s the boss; hold cabinet meetings; appoints leaders of departments, etc.



PRESIDENT'S ROLES...

Chief Administrator: The President is the director of the executive branch. He directs an administration that employs more than 2.5 million people and spends over 3 trillion dollars a year!



PRESIDENT'S ROLES...

Chief Diplomat: The President is the main architect of American foreign policy and the nation's chief spokesperson to the rest of the world.

- **Ex: Greets foreign leaders, treaties, etc.**



THE PRESIDENT'S ROLES...

Commander in Chief: The President is in charge of the 1.4 million people in the military, as well as the nation's military arsenal (weapons).

- Ex: Leader of the armed forces, etc.



THE PRESIDENT'S ROLES...

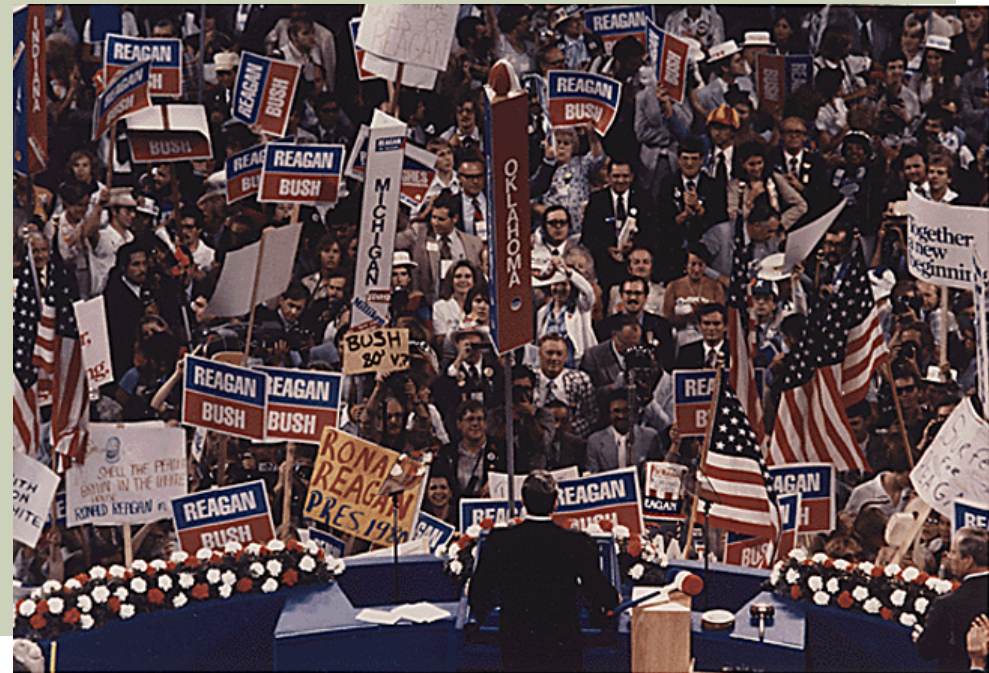
Chief Legislator: The President is the main architect of the nation's public policies. He sets the shape of Congress' agenda.

- Ex: Signs bills, proposes bills, etc.



THE PRESIDENT'S ROLES...

Chief of Party: The President is the acknowledged leader of the political party that controls the executive branch.



THE PRESIDENT'S ROLES...

Chief Citizen: The President is expected to be “the representative of all the people.” He is supposed to represent the public against private interests.



**VP, SUCCESSION AND
THE ELECTORAL
COLLEGE**

OFFICE OF VICE-PRESIDENCY

Duties

1. To preside over the Senate
2. To help decide the question of presidential disability
 - Virtually a “president in waiting”
 - Picked by President to “balance the ticket”

"I do not propose to be buried until I am dead."
— Daniel Webster, turning down the vice presidency in 1839.

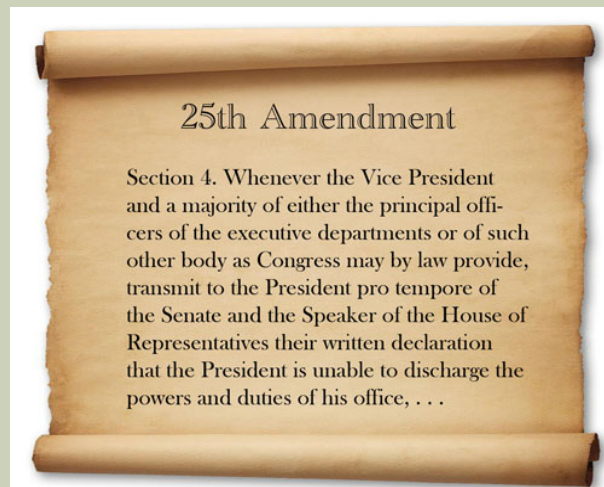
"Once there were two brothers: one ran away to sea, the other was elected Vice-President - and nothing was ever heard from either of them again"
-Thomas R. Marshall



"The vice president has two duties. One is to inquire daily as to the health of the president, and the other is to attend the funerals of Third World dictators. And neither of those do I find an enjoyable exercise."
- Presidential candidate John McCain (2000)

PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION: 25TH AMENDMENT - 1967

- **Section I** – If the Pres. is removed, dies, or resigns, the Vice-President becomes President
- **Section II** – A vacancy in the office of Vice-President; President will nominate and Congress will confirm with majority vote
- **Section III & IV** – Disability Gap – President informs Congress in writing or Vice and Cabinet determine inability, President may resume if Vice objects Congress has 21 days to decide.



PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION ACT OF 1947

Fixes the order of succession after the Vice-President.

- 1. Vice President (Joe Biden)**
- 2. Speaker of House (Paul Ryan)**
- 3. President Pro Tempore (Orrin Hatch)**
- 4. Secretary of State (John Kerry)**
- 5. Each of the other 14 heads of Cabinet Depts. In the order in which they were created.**

For fun..... Let's try and put the rest in order....

**Treasury, Defense, Attorney General, Interior, Agriculture,
Commerce, Labor, HHS, HUD, Transportation, Energy, Education,
Veterans Affairs, Homeland Security**

VIDEOS

- Pres. Succession Song -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4MF_aE0ZG0

- Pres. Succession Video -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bn8e-WzKK9Y>

■ So, how do we elect a President?

PRESIDENTIAL SELECTION

THE FRAMERS' PLAN

- Presidential electors chosen (*wisest citizens*)
- Selection of electors determined by states
- Electors cast two votes
- Votes opened and counted by Congress
- Highest # of votes becomes President
- 2nd highest becomes Vice-President
 - Could have a Pres. of one party and VP of another
- In the case of a tie, House would decide
- Senate would decide tie for Vice-President



- **What problem do you see in the Framers's Plan?**

12TH AMENDMENT - 1804

- Changed the Framers Plan in only one way
- Electors would now cast separate ballots
 - One for President
 - One for Vice President



12TH AMENDMENT

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

- # of Reps + # of Senators = # of electors
 - Illinois currently has 20
 - Need 270/538 to win.
 - DC gets 3 Electors – 23rd Amendment
- Electors are voted for by the popular vote in each state
 - Electors are now chosen by the parties in each state
- Each elector then casts the official vote for the President and VP.
- Electoral votes are counted by Pres. of Senate in a joint session of Congress on January 6.

WINNER TAKES ALL APPROACH

- 48 states and DC use this approach
 - Only Nebraska and Maine use a different method.



- The popular vote determines who will take all of the state's electoral votes

Example: Illinois –

- 2012 Vote: 2.9 million - Obama to 2 million - Romney
- Obama gets all 20 electoral votes

ELECTORAL COLLEGE VIDEOS

- TED EC Explained:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9H3gvnN468>

- CGP Grey:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0US9mM8Xbbw>

- Bill of Rights Institute:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SI4Pb5Ypbho>

- Electoral College Website (2016):

- <http://www.270towin.com/>

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS SYSTEM?

So, if the Framers set out our government this way, then it's the best way, right???

1ST MAJOR FLAW IN ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Winner of Popular Vote May Not Win

- Winning candidate gets all of the electoral votes. The voice of the others is not heard
- Distribution of electoral votes gives 2 extra to each state regardless of population.

2ND MAJOR FLAW OF ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Electors are not REQUIRED to vote in accord with the popular vote

- Called “Faithless Electors”
- Hasn’t had a bearing on the outcome of a presidential election but the potential is there.
- Nothing in the Constitution requires that an elector follow the popular vote.

3RD MAJOR FLAW IN ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Always the possibility of an election being decided by the House

- Only happened twice in 1800 and 1824
- Third party candidates make this possible

PROPOSALS TO REFORM ELECTORAL COLLEGE

- Only way to change is through constitutional amendment
 - How easy is that process?
- Have been proposed in every term of Congress since 1789.

THE DISTRICT PLAN

- 2 of the electoral votes would represent the popular vote of the state
- Each of the remaining electoral votes would represent the popular vote within each district.
- Provides a more accurate reflection of the popular vote
- Doesn't eliminate the possibility of the loser of the national popular vote still gaining the majority of the electoral vote

THE PROPORTIONAL PLAN

- Electoral votes would be divided based on the popular vote
- If 60% of the people vote for Obama then Obama gets 60% of the electoral votes
- Cures winner takes all and faithless electors problems
- Loser of popular vote could still win presidency
- Helps the third party candidates

DIRECT POPULAR ELECTION

- Abolish the electoral college
- Simpler process & each vote counts equally
- Winner would always be the majority or plurality choice.
- Smaller states lose their advantage
- Candidates have to campaign in every state
- States lose power thus weakening federalism
- Could lead to ballot box stuffing and voting fraud

NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE PLAN

- No change to Constitution required
- Proposed in 2006
- All of the State's electoral votes are to be awarded to the winner of the national popular vote

IN DEFENSE OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

- Only 2 elections have actually gone to the House
- Loser of popular vote has only won the presidency 4 times in 57 elections
- Known process – each reform may have its own defects that are unknown until used
- Identification of winner is quick and certain