Chapter 12

The Presidency
The Presidency

- Structure and Powers
- Controversies in Power
- Managing the Presidency
- Job of the President
- Congress and the Presidency
- Judging Presidents
The Structure and Powers of the Presidency

Structure of the Presidency

- Act with dispatch
  - Federalist 70
- Separation of powers
- Framers
  - 35-years old
  - Natural-born citizen
  - 14 years a resident

YOUNGEST PRESIDENTS IN HISTORY:
1. Theodore Roosevelt (42 years, 10 months, 18 days)
2. John F. Kennedy (43 years, 7 months, 22 days)
3. Bill Clinton (46 years, 5 months, 1 day)
4. Ulysses S. Grant (46 years, 10 months, 5 days)
5. Barack Obama (47 years, 5 months, 16 days)
The Structure and Powers of the Presidency

Constitutional Powers of the Presidency

- Vesting Clause
- Commander in Chief
- Diplomat in Chief
- Administrator in Chief
The Structure and Powers of the Presidency

Additional Constitutional Powers of the Presidency Appointment

- Veto Power
- Pardon Power
- Take Care Power
  - Inherent powers
- Power to Inform and Convene Congress
The Structure and Powers of the Presidency

Presidential Removal and Succession

• Impeachment
  – House drafts articles
  – 2/3 Senate convicts
  – Supreme Court chief justice presides

• 25th Amendment
  – Temporary removal for illness or disability
Controversies in Presidential Power

Controversial Powers

• War Power
• Executive Privilege
• Executive Orders
• Spending Power
  – Impoundment
Controversies in Presidential Power

Evolution of Power

- Steady and uneven growth
  - Andrew Jackson
  - Abraham Lincoln
  - Theodore Roosevelt
  - Franklin Delano Roosevelt
  - Harry Truman
FIGURE 12-1  Average Number of Executive Orders Issued Each Year, by President

Why has the average number of executive orders issued declined so much over the past six decades? What other tools might presidents now be using to influence policies and government?
Managing the Presidency

Managing the Presidency

• White House staff
  - Political
  - Policy

• Executive Office of the President

• Cabinet

• Vice President
FIGURE 12-2 Executive Office of the President. □ Why are there so many separate offices under the president’s direct command? And what do the kinds of offices President Obama includes in his Executive Office indicate about his policy priorities?

SOURCE: Pollingreport.com
Job of the Presidency

Job of President

- Morale Builders
- Agenda Setters
  - Economic policy
  - Social policy
  - National security policy
- Persuaders
### TABLE 12-1

What Can Presidents Change?

Percentage of Americans Who Said the President Has a Great Deal of Influence Over Each of the Following Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing prices</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest rates</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inflation</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas prices</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care costs</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal budget deficit</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The way other countries view the United States</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congress and the Presidency

Presidents and Congress Disagree

• Competing Constituencies
• Competing Calendars
• Competing Campaigns
Congress and the Presidency

Influencing Congress

- Presidential Mandates
- Public Approval
- Reputation

State of the Union Address, 2011
FIGURE 12-3 Presidential Approval Ratings, 1953–2010. How are all presidential approval ratings similar? Which president took office with the highest approval ratings, and which left with the lowest? What might explain the declines?

NOTE: Percentage is from the first Gallup/USA Today poll taken each calendar year.

Judging Presidents

• Lead the nation through periods of intense crisis

• Distinctive vision of where the nation should go on issues such as civil rights, social policy, economy

• Political and moral leaders