

# DAY ONE: The Electoral College

- ▶ Warmup:
  - ▶ Using the map given to you, select 10 states you would campaign the most in and color them **red**.
  - ▶ Color 10 states you would not campaign in very much and color them **green**.
- ▶ Quick Reflection: Do you side with a political party?

# Unit II: The United States Constitution

## Article II: The Executive Branch

-The Electoral System

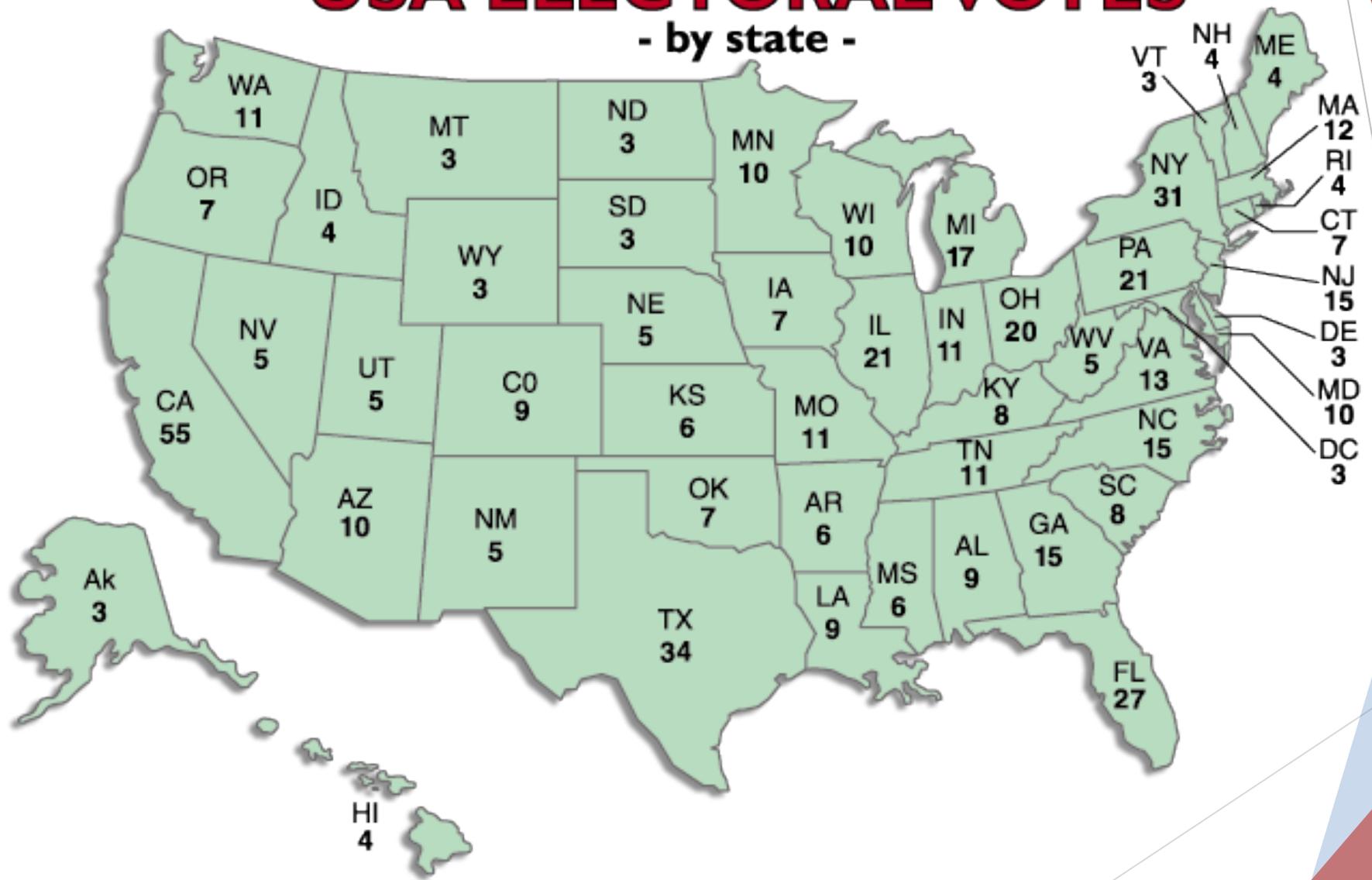
-The President

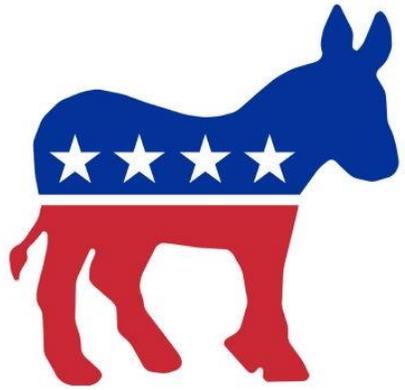
-Voting in America



# USA ELECTORAL VOTES

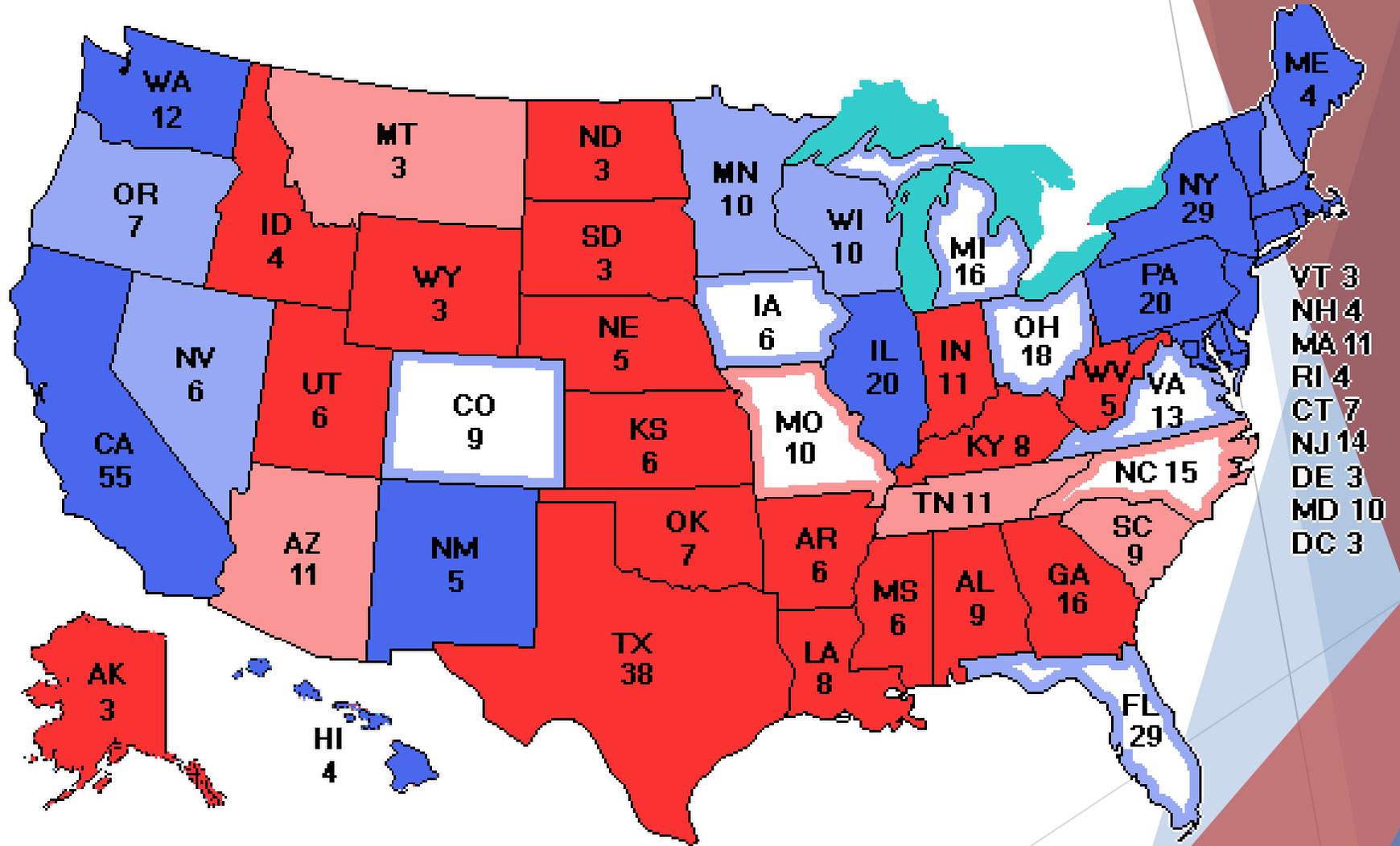
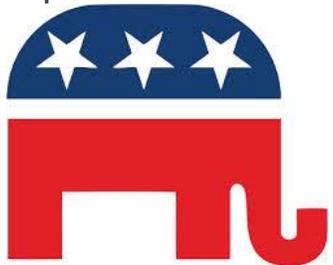
- by state -





- ▶ DARK BLUE = Democratic
- ▶ BLUE = Mostly Democratic
- ▶ BLUE OUTLINE = Likely to be democratic

- ▶ DARK RED: Republican
- ▶ RED = Mostly Republican
- ▶ RED OUTLINE = Likely to be republican



# Definition: Electoral College (n.)

- ▶ A body of people representing the states of the US, who formally cast votes for the election of the president and vice president.
- ▶ A body of electors chosen or appointed by a larger group



# Article II, Section I - Electoral Process

- ▶ 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, as follows.
- ▶ Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a **Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress**: but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.



# FOR AND AGAINST

- ▶ It was equally desirable, that the immediate election should be made by men most capable of analyzing the qualities adapted to the station, and acting under circumstances favorable to deliberation, and to a judicious combination of all the reasons and inducements which were proper to govern their choice. A small number of persons, selected by their fellow-citizens from the general mass, will be most likely to possess the information and discernment requisite to such complicated investigations.
- ▶ And as the electors, chosen in each State, are to assemble and vote in the State in which they are chosen, this detached and divided situation will expose them much less to heats and ferments, which might be communicated from them to the people, than if they were all to be convened at one time, in one place....
  - ▶ Alexander Hamilton

# FOR AND AGAINST

- ▶ [In a pure democracy], [a] common passion or interest will, in almost every case, be felt by a majority of the whole; a communication and concert results from the form of government itself; and there is nothing to check the inducements to sacrifice the weaker party or an obnoxious individual. Hence it is that such democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths.
  - ▶ -James Madison
  - ▶ Both Hamilton and Madison (Federalists) believed a pure democracy leaves the door open to tyranny and ineffective governments.

# FAQ's

## ▶ Does my vote really count?

- ▶ Yes and no. Votes for the presidents and vice president are cast for electors that should vote the way the people have requested through popular voting.

## ▶ What is an elector then?

- ▶ In each state, political parties choose “electors” that should represent the winning party’s vote. States may choose their own process in doing so. They may not simultaneously hold a federal position.

## ▶ What is a faithless elector?

- ▶ An elector that does not vote for the presidential candidate of the party. 24 states have laws to *punish* faithless electors although it has never occurred.
  - ▶ 19/56 elections have had 1 or more faithless electors (nearly 33%!!!)

## ▶ What if there is a tie?

- ▶ The United States Congress selects the winners (House = Pres. / Senate = V.P.)

# Voting History

- ▶ In **1824** Andrew Jackson won the popular vote but got less than 50% of the electoral votes. John Quincy Adams became the next president when he was picked by the House of Representatives.
- ▶ In **1876** Samuel Tilden won the popular vote but lost the election when Rutherford B. Hayes got 185 electoral votes to Tilden's 184.
- ▶ In **1888** Grover Cleveland won the popular vote but lost the election when Benjamin Harrison got 233 electoral votes to Cleveland's 168.
- ▶ In **2000** Al Gore won the popular vote but lost the election to George Bush. In the most highly contested election in modern history, the U.S. Supreme Court stopped the Florida recount of ballots, giving Bush the state's 25 electoral votes for a total of 271 to Gore's 255.



# FOR AND AGAINST:

- ▶ The Electoral College does not treat all Americans equally.
  - ▶ “all or nothing” in many states = lack of true representation
- ▶ The Electoral College turns presidential elections into massive efforts to win the votes of a small number of voters in a few key states, rather than the support of the American people as a whole.
- ▶ The Electoral College makes it possible to elect a president who has lost the popular election.
- ▶ The Electoral College disenfranchises millions of Americans by discriminating against non-citizens of the 50 states and the District of Columbia, such as residents in American territories.
- ▶ The Electoral College is inconsistent with the fundamental American principles of fairness and equality.
  - ▶ [www.fairvote.org](http://www.fairvote.org)

# HOW TO BECOME PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

## U.S. CONSTITUTION'S REQUIREMENTS FOR A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

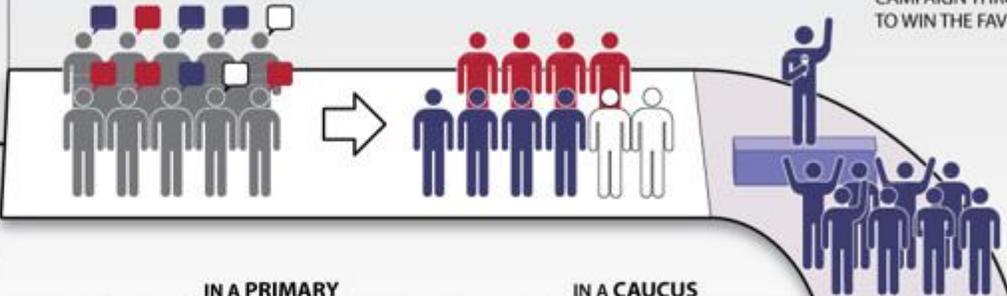
- ✓ NATURAL BORN CITIZEN
- ✓ MINIMUM AGE 35 YEARS
- ✓ U.S. RESIDENT 14 YEARS



## STEP 1 PRIMARIES AND CAUCUSES

THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO WANT TO BE PRESIDENT, EACH WITH THEIR OWN IDEAS ABOUT HOW GOVERNMENT SHOULD WORK. PEOPLE WITH SIMILAR IDEAS BELONG TO THE SAME POLITICAL PARTY, THIS IS WHERE PRIMARIES AND CAUCUSES COME IN.

CANDIDATES FROM EACH POLITICAL PARTY CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO WIN THE FAVOR OF THEIR PARTY MEMBERS.



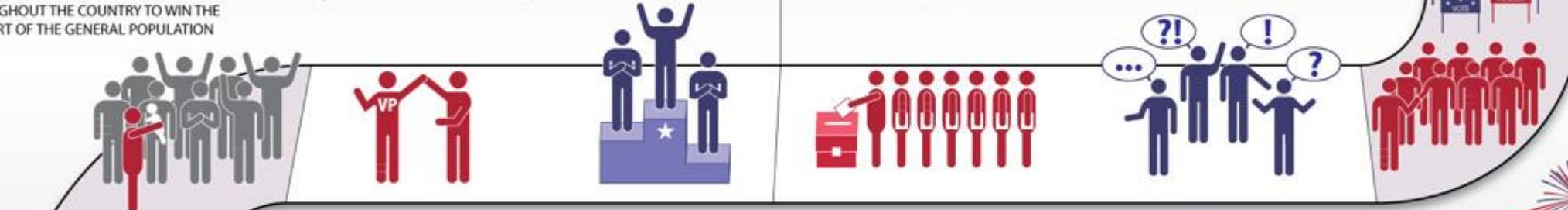
## NATIONAL CONVENTIONS STEP 2

AT EACH CONVENTION, THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE CHOOSES A RUNNING MATE (VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE). EACH PARTY HOLDS A NATIONAL CONVENTION TO SELECT A FINAL PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO WIN THE SUPPORT OF THE GENERAL POPULATION.

**IN A PRIMARY**  
PARTY MEMBERS VOTE FOR THE BEST CANDIDATE THAT WILL REPRESENT THEM IN THE GENERAL ELECTION.

**IN A CAUCUS**  
PARTY MEMBERS SELECT THE BEST CANDIDATE THROUGH A SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS AND VOTES.



## STEP 3 GENERAL ELECTION

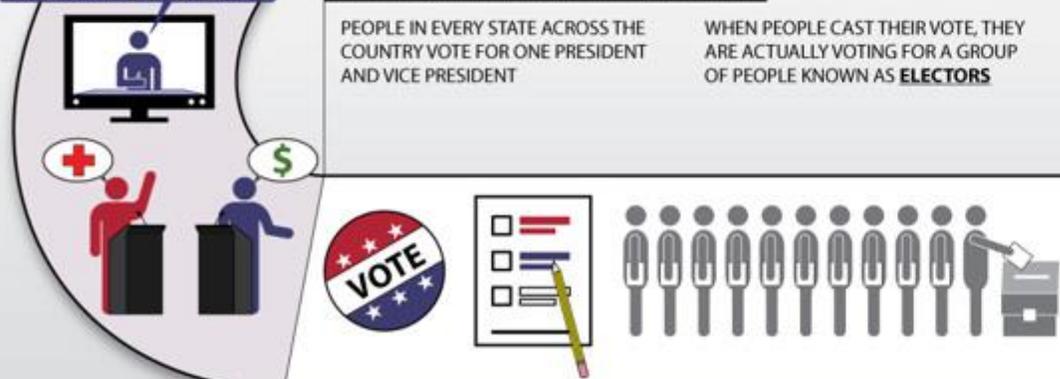
PEOPLE IN EVERY STATE ACROSS THE COUNTRY VOTE FOR ONE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT. WHEN PEOPLE CAST THEIR VOTE, THEY ARE ACTUALLY VOTING FOR A GROUP OF PEOPLE KNOWN AS **ELECTORS**.

## STEP 4 ELECTORAL COLLEGE

IN THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE SYSTEM, EACH STATE GETS A CERTAIN NUMBER OF ELECTORS BASED ON ITS REPRESENTATION IN CONGRESS. EACH ELECTOR CASTS ONE VOTE FOLLOWING THE GENERAL ELECTION, AND THE CANDIDATE WHO GETS MORE THAN HALF (270) WINS.

THE NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT ARE INAUGURATED IN JANUARY.

...AND I APPROVE THIS MESSAGE.



# Chief Executive

- ▶ Enforces or puts laws into effect
- ▶ Acts as administrator of federal bureaucracy
- ▶ Issues executive orders
- ▶ Appoints judges, diplomats, and high ranking government officials
- ▶ Removes appointed officials within the executive branch



# Chief Diplomat

- ▶ Makes treaties
- ▶ Makes executive agreements with Senate approval
- ▶ Extends or withdraws diplomatic recognition of a nation



# Commander in Chief

- ▶ Leads US military branches
- ▶ May send troops to foreign countries
- ▶ Broad military powers shared with Congress
- ▶ Increases power in times of conflict



# Chief Legislator

- ▶ Recommends legislation to Congress
- ▶ Vetoes potential laws
- ▶ Gains support for causes through media



# Chief of State

- ▶ Ceremonial head of state
- ▶ Acts as symbol of United States
- ▶ Attends ceremonies throughout the nation



# Judicial Enforcer

- ▶ Carries out decisions of Federal Courts
- ▶ Grants reprieves, pardons, and amnesties (pardons extended to groups or individuals)



# Party Chief

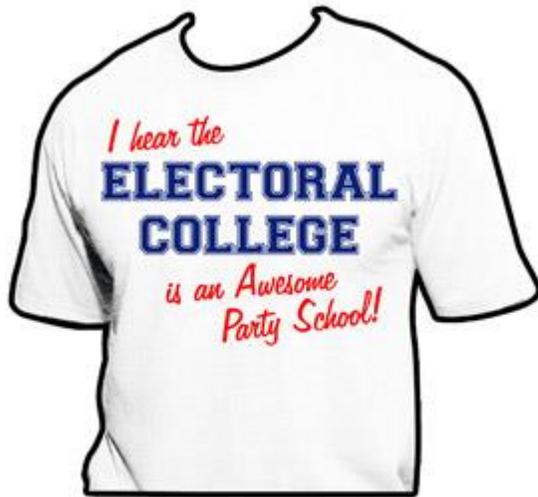
- ▶ Leads political party



# EXIT SLIP

- ▶ On a piece of lined paper, share *your* thoughts on **whether or not you believe the electoral system is effective**. Be sure to thoroughly explain your answer and use your half-sheet, discourse markers help page.
  - ▶ TIPS:
    - ▶ Refer to quotes by Madison and Hamilton
    - ▶ Use facts from PPT
    - ▶ Use your notes!

# Unit II: The United States Constitution



- ▶ Article II: The Executive Branch
  - ▶ -The Electoral System
  - ▶ -The President
  - ▶ -Voting in America

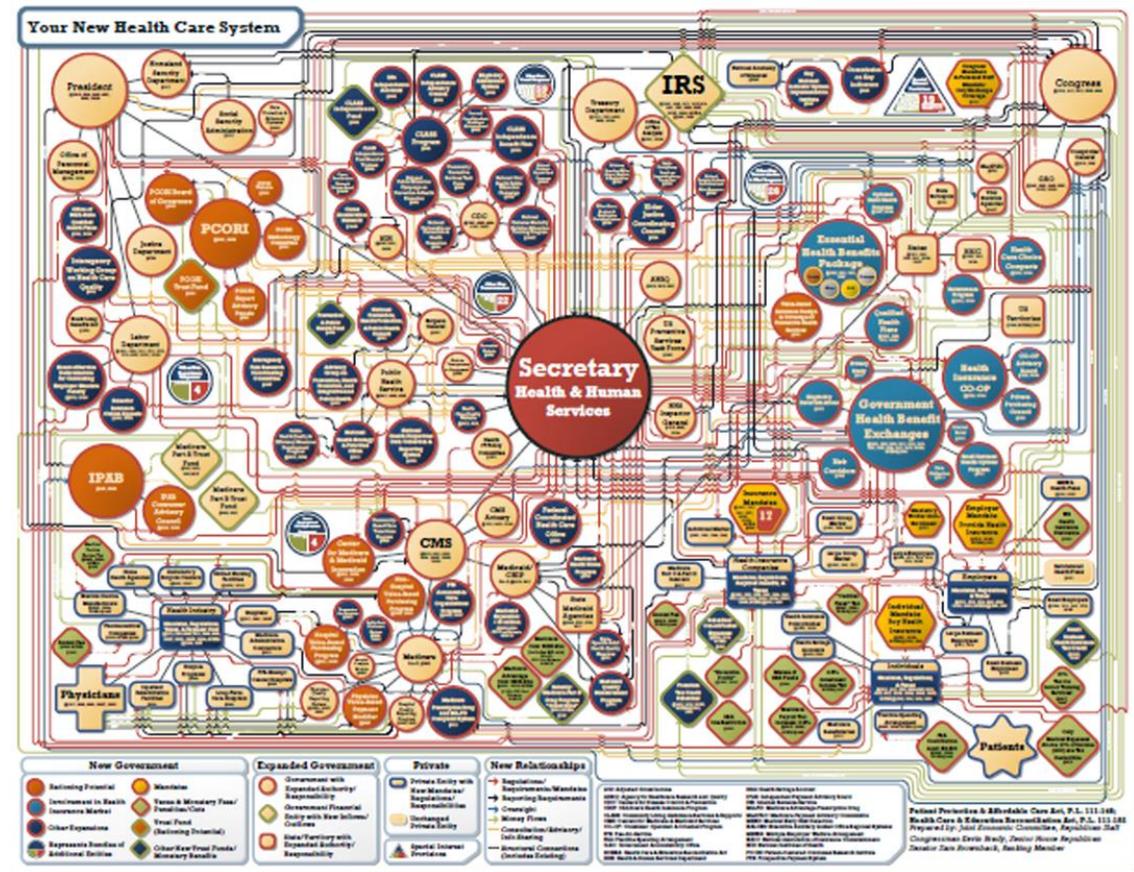
# Warm Up

## ▶ POST ITS

- ▶ Use all 3 Post-It's to write down a role, responsibility, or expectation of the President of the United States.
- ▶ Post on whiteboard then return to seat.

# Bureaucracy

- ▶ A **bureaucracy** is a way of administratively organizing large numbers of people who need to work together.
- ▶ Bureaucrats institute (enforce) policies
- ▶ Bureaucracy translates to “rule by desk or offices”



# Federal Bureaucracy

Promote  
Public Good

- EPA - Environmental Protection Agency
- FBI - Federal Bureau of Investigation

Protect the  
Nation

- Armed Forces (Navy, Army, Air Force)
- CIA - Central Intelligence Agency

Sustain  
Economy

- Federal Reserve Bank
- Securities and Exchange Commission

# Federal Bureaucracy

- ▶ Over 2.6 million “employees”
- ▶ Mostly controlled by executive branch
- ▶ 5 Types of Organizations
  - ▶ Cabinet Departments
  - ▶ Independent Executive Agencies
  - ▶ Independent Regulatory Agencies
  - ▶ Government Corporations
  - ▶ Presidential Commissions



# Executive Departments (US Cabinet)

- ▶ The Cabinet includes the Vice President and the heads of **15 executive departments** - Secretaries of:
  - ▶ State
  - ▶ Treasury
  - ▶ Defense
  - ▶ Justice
  - ▶ Interior
  - ▶ Agriculture
  - ▶ Commerce
  - ▶ Labor
  - ▶ Health and Human Services
  - ▶ Housing and Urban Development
  - ▶ Transportation
  - ▶ Energy
  - ▶ Education
  - ▶ Veterans Affairs
  - ▶ Homeland Security



# DAY TWO: JIGSAW

- ▶ Count off by 4's
- ▶ All groups have at least 4 people and each person in the group has a letter A, B, C, or D.
- ▶ Complete your GROUP #'s set of questions.
- ▶ During the rotation make new groups by having at least one A, B, C, and D in it.
- ▶ RE-TEACH, do not copy or you will complete it all by yourselves!

