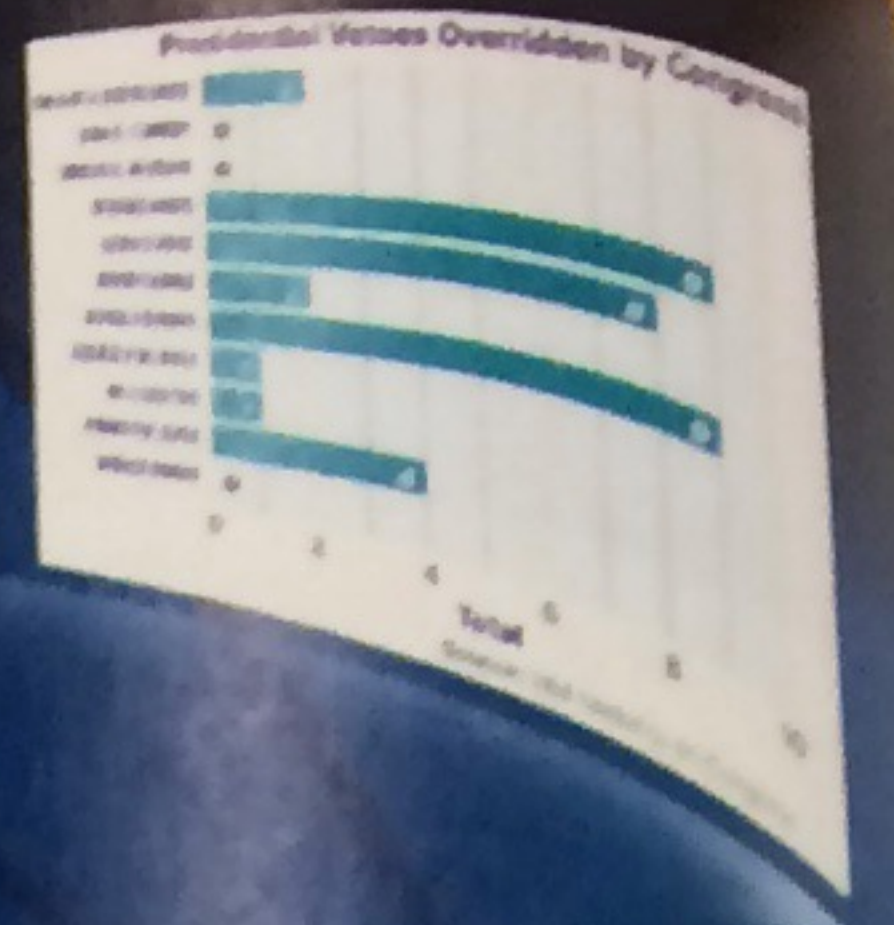
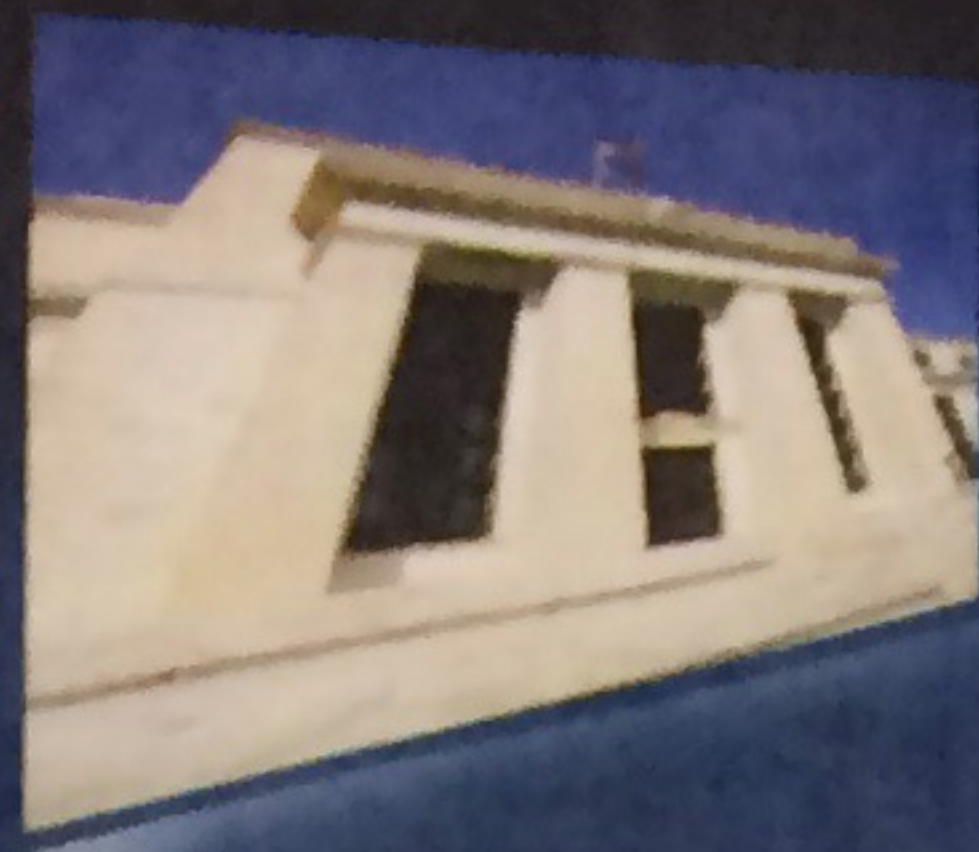


Interact with these digital assets and others in lesson 4

- ✓ INTERACTIVE GRAPH
Presidential Vetoes Overridden by Congress
- ✓ INTERACTIVE IMAGE
The President as Party Leader
- ✓ SELF-CHECK QUIZ
- ✓ VIDEO
The State of the Union Address

networks
TRY IT YOURSELF ONLINE



LESSON 4 Legislative, Economic, and Party Leader

ReadingHelp Desk

Academic Vocabulary

- annual
- ensure

Content Vocabulary

- Federal Reserve System
- Council of Economic Advisers
- political patronage

TAKING NOTES:

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

DESCRIBING As you read this lesson, fill in the columns for each role. Describe at least two examples of actions the president takes in that role, find a news story that relates to that role and summarize the article, and draw a symbol that represents this role.

	Presidential Roles		
	Legislative Leader	Economic Leader	Party Leader
Examples			
News Story			
Symbol			

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What are the powers and roles of the president and how have they changed over time?

The president acts as a legislative, economic, and political party leader and has different tools available at his or her disposal to use in these roles. Explore the list of hypothetical events and situations. Categorize each as involving the president's role as legislative, economic, or political party leader. As you read, think of tools or powers that the president could use to advance his or her agenda.

1. The Congress passes a law that the president disagrees with.
2. There is a recession in the country and the unemployment rate has climbed to 10%.
3. The Senate is evenly split between Democrats and Republicans and congressional elections are coming up. There is a chance that the president's party could gain a majority if they do well in the election.
4. The president has a proposal for U.S. immigration reform and would like Congress to pass a new law.

Influencing Legislation

GUIDING QUESTION How does the president influence the legislative process?

The Constitution gives Congress—not the president—the power and responsibility to make laws. However, the vast majority of bills become laws only if they are signed by the president. (A small number of bills become laws despite presidential opposition.)

Most presidents have significant influence over the types of laws that are proposed and how those laws are crafted. The Constitution refers to the president's role in influencing Congress. Article II, Section 3, says the president "shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient."

TEKS Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills

1F identify significant individuals in the field of government and politics, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Marshall, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Ronald Reagan

continued on the next page

Usually the president describes legislative priorities in the **annual** State of the Union address to Congress. The address calls attention to the president's ideas about how to solve key problems facing the country. The president can suggest legislation, and Congress may adopt those ideas, but it may also reject or significantly revise the president's proposals. The president's power to influence legislation is also limited by the judiciary, as the federal courts can rule that laws are unconstitutional.

Tools to Influence Congress The president works to influence Congress in several ways—from drafting and negotiating about legislation to submitting a suggested annual budget and economic reports. The president has a large staff to help with these activities. When the president and the majority in Congress are from the same party, the president's ambitious legislative goals are more likely to be met.

A standard measure of presidential success with Congress is how frequently presidents get their way on congressional roll call votes they support. President George W. Bush's success rate was about 75 percent during the six years there was a Republican majority in Congress. When Democrats gained control of Congress in the 2006 elections, Bush's success rate declined to 38 percent.

A president's relationship with members of Congress and external events might also influence the degree of cooperation. President George W. Bush pushed for legislation to fight terrorism, including the USA Patriot Act, in the weeks after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Many provisions were quickly passed with large majorities. Support for the president among members of Congress and the public soared after the attacks.

When the president and the majority in Congress are from different political parties, the president must work harder to influence Congress to support the administration's programs. Presidents often meet with party leadership and members of Congress from both parties to share their views.

TEKS Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills

7D evaluate constitutional provisions for limiting the role of government, including republicanism, checks and balances, federalism, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, and individual rights.

8B analyze the structure and functions of the executive branch of government, including the constitutional powers of the president, the growth of presidential power, and the role of the Cabinet and executive departments.

10A compare different methods of filling public offices, including elected and appointed offices at the local, state, and national levels;

20A analyze information by sequencing, categorizing, identifying cause-and-effect relationships, comparing, contrasting, finding the main idea, summarizing, making generalizations and predictions, and drawing inferences and conclusions;

annual happening once per year

PRIMARY SOURCE

President Lyndon B. Johnson's 1964 State of the Union Address

"This administration today, here and now, declares unconditional war on poverty in America. I urge this Congress and all Americans to join with me in that effort. . . . The richest Nation on earth can afford to win it. We cannot afford to lose it . . .

The program I shall propose will emphasize this cooperative approach to help that one-fifth of all American families with incomes too small to even meet their basic needs. Our chief weapons in a more pinpointed attack will be better schools, and better health, and better homes, and better training, and better job opportunities to help more Americans, especially young Americans, escape from squalor and misery and unemployment rolls where other citizens help to carry them."

—President Lyndon B. Johnson, State of the Union Address, January 8, 1964

Use the excerpt from President Lyndon B. Johnson's 1964 State of the Union Address to answer the questions.

CRITICAL THINKING

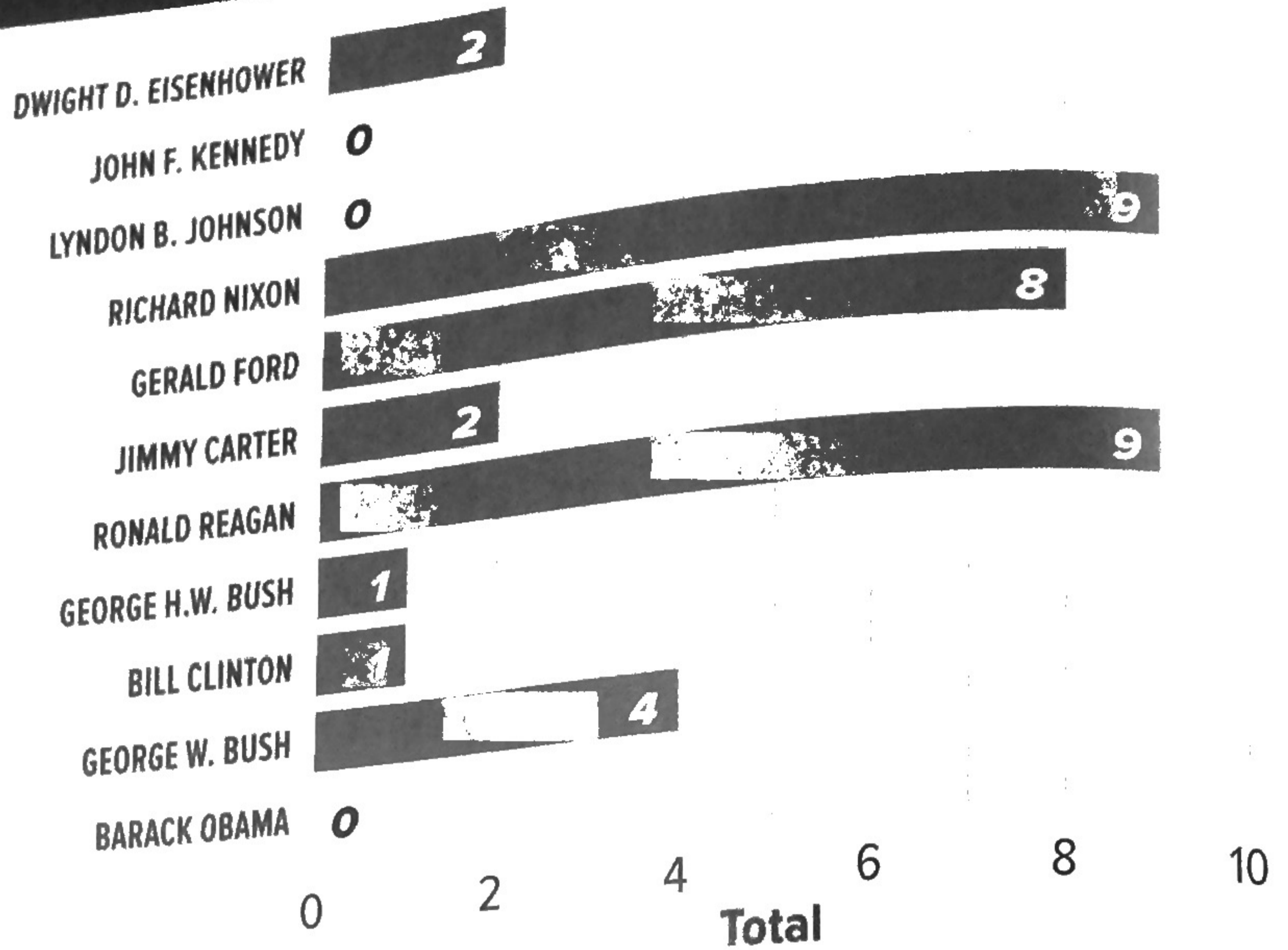
- 1. Analyzing** What does this excerpt tell you about President Johnson's legislative goals for 1964?
- 2. Describing** List three types of programs that the President intends to propose to Congress. How does he say these programs will help Americans?
- 3. Explaining** Whenever the government creates a new program, it must be authorized and funded by Congress and run by the executive branch. How does Johnson begin to justify the expense of the proposed programs?
- 4. Informative/Explanatory** Choose one of the following programs created during the "War on Poverty" that still exists today: Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps, and Head Start. Write a brief summary of the program. Explain who is eligible for the program, what it aims to do, the current cost of the program, and which executive branch agency runs it.

PRESIDENTIAL VETOES OVERRIDDEN BY CONGRESS

A president's veto may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress.

► CRITICAL THINKING

Analyzing Graphs Which three presidents had the most vetoes overridden by Congress? What conclusions can you draw about the makeup of Congress during the administrations of these presidents?



Source: Vital Statistics on Congress

Both sides must often compromise in order to get any significant legislation passed. For example, in 1983 President Ronald Reagan worked with House Speaker Tip O'Neill to create a bipartisan plan to fund Social Security that required compromises from both parties.

One of the key features of President Lyndon B. Johnson's presidency was his leadership in pushing Congress to pass legislation he called the "War on Poverty." Having served in both the House of Representatives and the Senate before becoming president, Johnson was friendly with many legislators. He was also known for his keen political and persuasive skills.

Presidents may hand out political favors to get congressional support. They may visit the home state of a member of Congress to support his or her reelection. Or a president may start a new federal project that will bring money and jobs to a member's home state or district.

In general, public support can give a president real leverage in influencing lawmakers. Since Congress is a representative body, it is very sensitive to the amount of public support a president can generate. When a president is popular, presidential proposals and policies are better received by Congress than when the public holds a president in low regard.

When Lyndon B. Johnson succeeded to the office of president, Congress passed his War on Poverty legislation. However, when Johnson became unpopular during the Vietnam War, he encountered fierce opposition in Congress. His effectiveness as a leader was almost destroyed.

The Veto Presidents possess an important tool in lawmaking known as the veto. Each bill Congress passes is sent to the president for approval and signature. According to the Constitution, the president has 10 days to sign or veto (reject) the bill. If the president takes no action in 10 days, the bill becomes a law without his or her signature. However, if the president takes no action and the Congress adjourns during that 10-day period, the bill does not become a law. This is known as a pocket veto. Congress can override the president's veto if two-thirds of both houses vote to do so. If the Congress is able to muster enough votes to override the veto, the bill becomes a law despite the president's objections.

Presidents sometimes use the threat of a veto to force Congress to stop a bill or change it. The threat of a veto may succeed because Congress generally finds it very difficult to gather enough votes to override a veto.

Unlike most state governors, the president does not have the power to veto selected items in a bill. This type of veto is called a line-item veto. Congress attempted to give the president some power over individual items by passing the Line Item Veto Act in 1996. President Clinton began to use the new power almost immediately, but the law was challenged as soon as it went into effect. In *Clinton v. City of New York* (1998), the Supreme Court struck down the law as unconstitutional, ruling that Congress could not give the president power to alter laws without changing the Constitution.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Analyzing Why is the veto considered such an important legislative tool for the president?

Economic Planning

GUIDING QUESTION *How does the president fulfill the role of chief economic planner?*

The president's role as chief economic planner was not set out in the Constitution but developed over time. The role has grown rapidly since President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. During Roosevelt's presidency, the Great Depression caused a severe economic crisis in the United States, leaving 25 percent of the population without jobs. Roosevelt persuaded Congress to create many new programs to provide income for the elderly, supply people with jobs, regulate banks, and set up the federal agencies to run these programs. This "New Deal" greatly expanded the role of the federal government in the economy. After Roosevelt, Americans expected their presidents to take a firm hand in directing the nation's economy.

In 1935 Congress passed the Banking Act, which gives the president the authority to appoint the seven members that direct the nation's central banking system known as the **Federal Reserve System** or simply "the Fed." The president can also appoint the group's chairman when there is a vacancy in that position. The Fed is an independent agency, which is structured to be less subject to political pressures than most federal agencies. Still, presidents nominate individuals who share their views about the best way to stabilize the banking system and to grow the economy. The president's nominees must be confirmed by the Senate.

In 1946 Congress passed the Employment Act, giving new duties to the president. This law directed the president to submit an annual economic report to Congress. The law also created a **Council of Economic Advisers** to study the economy and to advise the president on domestic and international economic policies. The law declared for the first time that the federal government was responsible for promoting high employment, production, and purchasing power.

Since 1946, Congress has continued to pass laws giving presidents the power to deal with economic problems, though the executive and legislative branches sometimes do not agree on policies.

Budgeting One of the president's economic duties is to prepare an annual budget. The president supervises this work and spends many months with budget officials deciding which government programs to support and which to cut back. These decisions about spending reflect the president's priorities—programs the president favors will receive more funding than those the president does not.

Federal Reserve System the central banking system of the United States

Council of Economic Advisers presidential advisers who study the economy and advise the president on domestic and international economic policies

The Federal Reserve Board building in Washington, D.C., is where the Board of Governors of the Fed meets.

CRITICAL THINKING

Speculating Why do you think the Fed is an independent agency?





President Obama campaigning for U.S. Senate candidate Democrat Martha Coakley in Boston

▲ CRITICAL THINKING

Hypothesizing Under what circumstances might a candidate not want a president to help with campaigning?

ensure to make sure, certain, or safe

political patronage appointment to political office, usually as a reward for helping get a president elected

The annual budget proposal is submitted to the House of Representatives, where it is modified and debated. Ultimately, Congress passes a law that creates the budget and the president can sign or veto that law.

✓ READING PROGRESS CHECK

Comparing How does the president use the Federal Reserve System and the Council of Economic Advisers to plan and manage the United States economy?

Political Party Leader

GUIDING QUESTION *What is the president's role as party leader?*

The president's political party expects the chief executive to be a party leader. The president may give speeches to help party members who are running for office or may attend fund-raising activities to help raise money for the party. The president also selects the party's

national chair and often helps plan future election strategies.

Presidents are expected to appoint members of their party to government jobs. These appointments **ensure** that supporters will remain committed to a president's programs. **Political patronage**, or appointment to political office, rewards the people who have helped get a president elected. Being a political party leader can be a difficult role for a president. People expect a president, as head of the government, to represent all Americans. Political parties, however, expect presidents to provide leadership for their own political party. Sometimes these conflicting roles cause problems. When President Bill Clinton compromised with the Republican Congress to enact legislation that cut back federal funding for welfare programs in 1996, he was criticized by the more liberal members of his party. If a president appears to act in a partisan way, that is, in a way that favors his or her party, the media and the public can be critical.

✓ READING PROGRESS CHECK

Making Inferences Why might a president's role as leader of the nation and leader of a political party conflict?

LESSON 4 REVIEW



Reviewing Vocabulary

- Applying** What is political patronage? Give at least one example of a president using political patronage.

10A, 21A

Using Your Graphic Organizer

- Summarizing** Write a brief summary of the actions presidents take in their roles as legislative, economic, and party leader. **8B, 20A, 21D**

Answering the Guiding Questions

- Explaining** How does the president influence the legislative process? **8B**
- Stating** How does the president fulfill the role of chief economic planner? **8B**

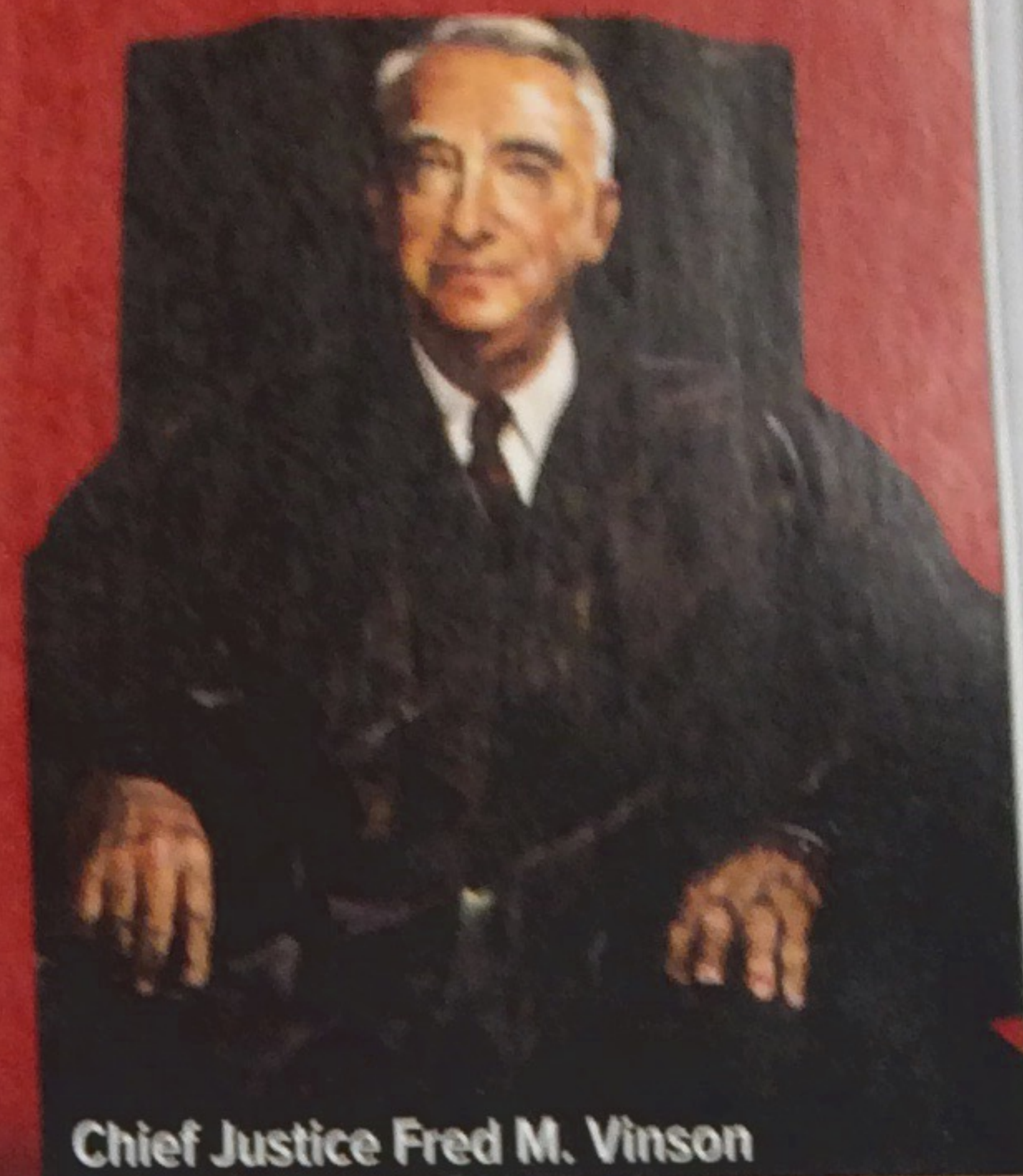
- Describing** What is the president's role as party leader? **8B**

Writing About Government

- Argument** While Congress has the responsibility and constitutional authority to make laws, the president still has significant power to influence legislation. Some observers believe that Congress has relinquished too much control over the legislative process to the president and the executive branch. Write an essay either agreeing or disagreeing with this observation. **8B, 21D**

Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v Sawyer (1952)

FACTS OF THE CASE In December of 1950, the United States officially entered the Korean War. Fighting this war required the continuous production of weapons, planes, ships, and other materials. Many of these materials were made out of steel. In 1951, a dispute arose between many of the nation's largest steel mills and their employees. The workers' unions called for a strike to begin several months later if their demands were not met by then. President Harry Truman met with Congress to express his concerns that a strike would endanger the production of war materials and, therefore, the nation's defense. However, Congress did not take any action or provide for any procedures that might keep the steel mills running during a strike. On April 8, the day before the strike was to begin, President Truman issued an executive order that directed his Secretary of Commerce to take direct control of all the steel mills that would be affected by the strike so that they would continue producing steel. The steel companies resisted a government takeover of their mills by suing the Secretary of Commerce, Charles Sawyer. The case reached the Supreme Court in less than a month.



Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson

ISSUE

May the president use a power that is constitutionally delegated to Congress if Congress fails to act?

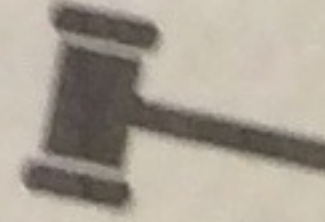
ARGUMENTS

SAWYER The president's actions were reasonable because as commander in chief of the armed forces, he has the constitutional right to take any actions necessary to keep the armed forces operational. Though this case involved taking private property, there are many other examples throughout history of presidents taking similar action. For example, Abraham Lincoln freed all enslaved persons in the Confederacy even though these individuals were considered property at the time. In 1941, right before America entered World War II, Franklin Roosevelt ordered the army to take control of the North American Aviation plant after its workers went on strike. If these actions were acceptable, then so is the seizure of the steel mills.

YOUNGSTOWN SHEET & TUBE CO. At the time this case came before the Supreme Court, Congress had not declared war against Korea, so President Truman could not take over steel plants on behalf of an unauthorized war effort. The president had no authority to take private property unless Congress authorized such an action. Just because Congress does not use its power does not mean the president has the authority to do so. The Constitution is very clear on the powers of the three branches of government. Those powers do not change just because one branch makes a bad decision or refuses to act.

EXPLORING THE ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Moot Court You will be assigned to one of three groups: lawyers for Sawyer, lawyers for Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co., or Supreme Court justices. You will prepare for a moot court of this case. The lawyers for each side should develop arguments and prepare to answer questions from the justices. The justices should prepare questions to ask the lawyers. Each team will have five minutes to present its side during oral arguments, and the justices will be allowed to ask the lawyers questions. The justices will then vote and explain their decision. Next, write an essay or blog that reflects your personal opinion about this issue.

YOU BE  **the JUDGE**

7D, 8A, 8B, 20A, 20C, 20D

STUDY GUIDE

POWERS OF THE PRESIDENT

LESSON 1



HEAD OF STATE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

LESSON 2

HEAD OF STATE

- performs ceremonial functions
- comforts citizens in times of crisis
- hosts dignitaries
- gives awards to distinguished citizens

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

- carries out the laws
- appoints cabinet and other agency heads
- appoints federal judges and Supreme Court justices
- issues executive orders
- grants reprieves, pardons, and amnesty

COMMANDER IN CHIEF AND CHIEF DIPLOMAT

LESSON 3

COMMANDER IN CHIEF

As civilian commander of the armed forces, can use the military to

- defend the nation
- engage in overseas operations
- control serious turmoil in the United States
- aid in natural disasters in the United States

CHIEF DIPLOMAT

- directs U.S. foreign policy
- makes decisions about U.S. relations with other countries
- negotiates and signs treaties
- signs executive agreements with other countries
- recognizes foreign governments

ROLES OF THE PRESIDENT

LESSON 1

THE PRESIDENT WEARS MANY HATS:

- Head of State
- Chief Executive
- Commander in Chief
- Chief Diplomat
- Legislative Leader
- Economic Planner
- Party Leader

LEGISLATIVE LEADER, ECONOMIC PLANNER, AND PARTY LEADER

LESSON 4

LEGISLATIVE LEADER

- gives annual State of the Union address
- drafts and negotiates bills
- signs or vetoes laws passed by Congress
- can call a congressional special session

ECONOMIC PLANNER

- submits annual budget to Congress
- submits economic reports to Congress
- appoints heads of Federal Reserve System

PARTY LEADER

- gives speeches and attends fundraisers to support party candidates
- selects party's national chair
- helps plan election strategies
- appoints party members to political office