



# The Executive Bureaucracy

The Executive Departments



# The Vice President

- Constitution on lists two formal duties for Vice President
  - Preside over the senate
  - Help decide the question of presidential disability
    - Presidential disability is when the president is unable to carry out his duties
    - The only other assumed purpose of the vice president is to be a president in waiting.





# The Executive Cabinet

- Not a formal organization mandated by law
  - Developed over the years as an informal group of advisors from each of the executive departments

Article II, Section 2, Clause 1... “he may require the Opinion, in writing of the principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices...”





# Steps in the Process of Appointing Members of the Cabinet

- Presidential nomination
- White House review
- Paperwork financial disclosure
- FBI investigation
- Senate confirmation hearings
- Senate vote (majority needed)





# Executive Cabinet Positions

- Secretary of State
- Secretary of the Treasury
- Attorney General
- Department of Defense
- Secretary of the Interior
- Secretary of Agriculture
- Secretary of Commerce
- Secretary of Labor
- Secretary of Health and Human Services
- Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
- Secretary of Transportation
- Secretary of Energy
- Secretary of Education
- Secretary of Veterans Affairs
- Secretary of Homeland Security



# Current Cabinet for President Obama

**Vice President of the United States**

Joseph R. Biden

**Department of State**

Secretary John Kerry

**Department of the Treasury**

Secretary Jack Lew

**Department of Defense**

Secretary Ashton Carter

**Department of Justice**

Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch

**Department of the Interior**

Secretary Sally Jewell

**Department of Agriculture**

Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack

**Department of Commerce**

Secretary Penny Pritzker

**Department of Labor**

Secretary Thomas E. Perez

**Department of Health and Human Services**

Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell

**Department of Housing and Urban Development**

Secretary Julián Castro

**Department of Transportation**

Secretary Anthony Foxx

**Department of Energy**

Secretary Ernest Moniz

**Department of Education**

Secretary John King

**Department of Veterans Affairs**

Secretary Robert McDonald

**Department of Homeland Security**

Secretary Jeh Johnson



# Department of State

- Handles the foreign policy of the nation
- Staffs embassies
- Analyzes data about American interests in other nations
- Speaks for the U.S. at the United Nations





# Department of the Treasury

- Serves as the financial division of the government
- Manages public debt
- Collects taxes
- Manufactures coins and currency
- Administers explosive and firearm laws
- Regulates the production and distribution of alcohol and tobacco





# Department of Justice

- Oversees the nation's legal affairs
- Supervises the agencies that serve as the nation's police and prison system
- Enforces antitrust laws





# Department of Defense

- Protects the security of the United States
- Oversees the armed forces through the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Until 1949 was called the Department of War





# Department of Interior

- Protects the public lands and natural resources throughout the U.S.
- Oversees relationships with Native Americans





# Department of Agriculture

- Helps farmers improve incomes and production for home and abroad
- Develops conservation programs
- Safeguards the nation's food supply





# Department of Commerce

- Promotes and protects the industrial and commercial parts of the economy
- Carries out the census





# Department of Labor

- Ensures safe working conditions
- Oversees minimum wages and protects pensions
- Collects and analyzes data on employment





# Department of Health and Human Services

- Oversees programs concerned with health and social services of the American people
- Manages federal medicare and medicaid





# Department of Housing and Urban Development

- Works to assist communities in the nation
- Ensures equal housing opportunities





# Department of Transportation

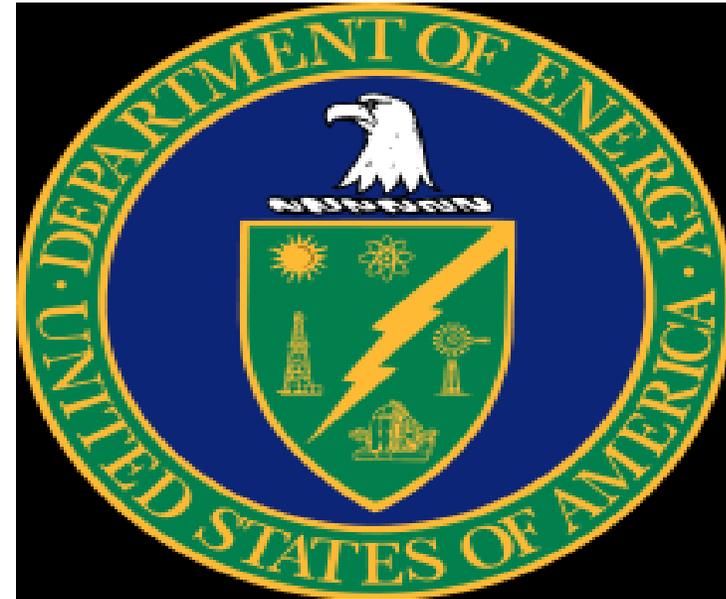
- Regulates America's transportation needs, policies and planning.
- Works to ensure safe, efficient, and convenient land and air transportation





# Department of Energy

- Plans energy policy
- Researches and develops energy technology





# Department of Education

- Co-ordinates federal assistance programs for public and private schools
- Develops programs to help students with limited English proficiency and physically challenged students





# Department of Veterans Affairs

- Oversees medical care for veterans and families
- Manages educational programs for veterans





# Department of Homeland Security

- Charged with protecting the security of America's borders, shores, land and the safety of its people
- Newest department created after September 11, 2001





# Other Cabinet Level Positions

- The Vice President
- Head of the Office of Management and Budget
- Head of the Environmental Protection Agency
- White House chief of Staff
- United States Trade Representative
- Head of the Office of Nation Drug Control Policy

