

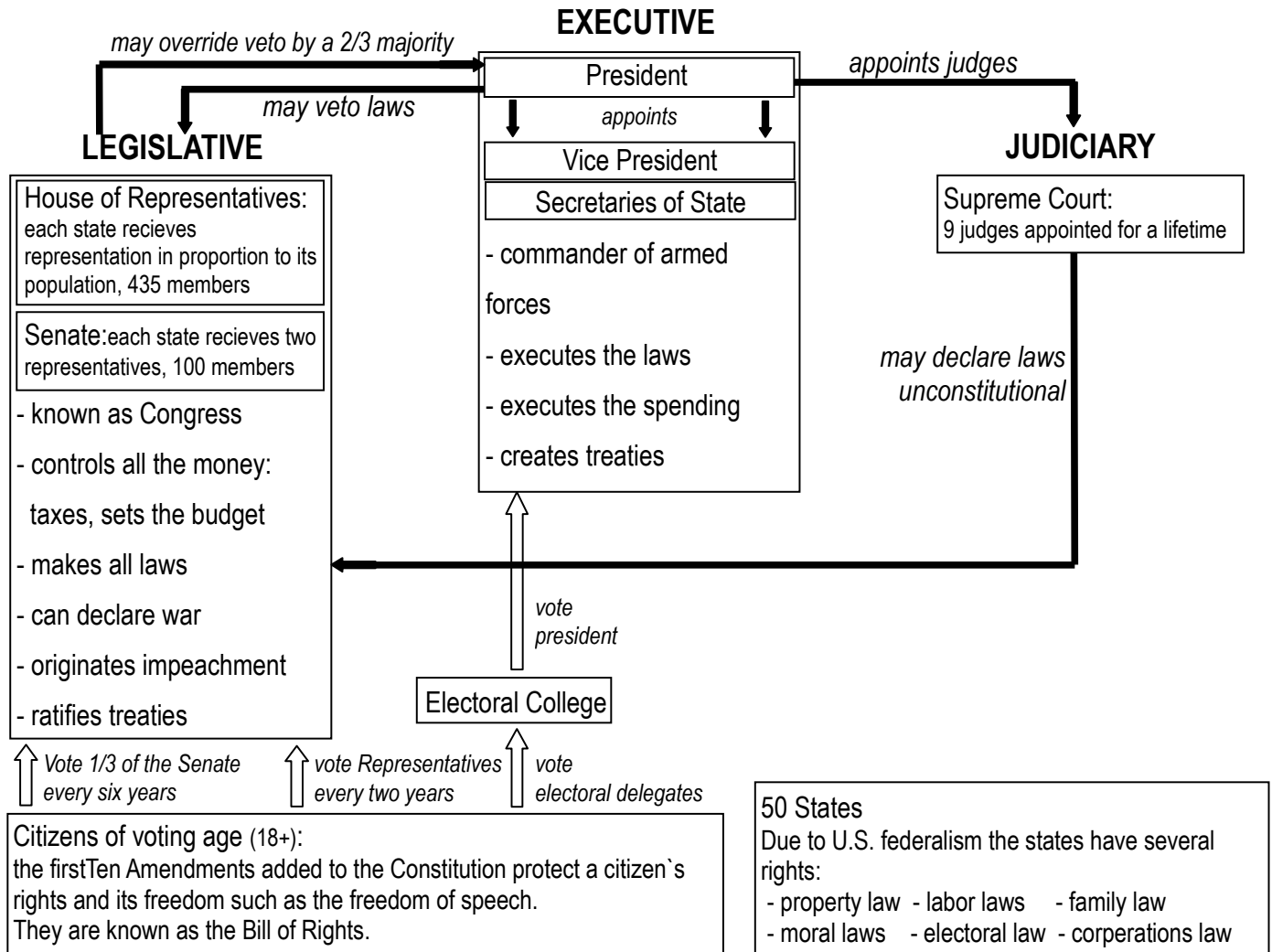
AMERICA EXPLAINED

THE BRAND NEW SCHOOL PROGRAM

The U.S. Government Factsheet

44th Head of State: Barack Hussein Obama
Capital: Washington D.C.

The U.S. Constitution, adopted in 1787, establishes the federal Government of the United States and confirms its existence. It provides the framework for the organization, work and relationship between the branches and the people. The separation of powers, in the US known as the system of checks and balances, prevents the abuse of power:



There are two major political parties in the US. It is difficult to define their ideologies in general, but there are some aspects to consider:

The Democratic Party advocates a social democratic agenda such as a universal health care system, affirmative action, a free-enterprise system tempered by government intervention. It supports progressive taxation and opposes social injustice. Ecofriendly policies are important to many.

The Republican Party favors laissez-faire economics, personal responsibility and therefore opposes welfare programs. They advocate a strong national defense and many oppose affirmative action. The conservative wing is sceptical about on the impact of human activity on climate change.

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