



## SEPARATION OF POWERS

Learning Objectives: The student will

1. Analyze the relationships between the three branches of government through the separation of powers.
2. Determine which powers belong to which branch of the government.

TEKS: 8.15 D

Materials Needed: Copies of the powers cards and visuals of the 3 branches.

Teaching Strategy:

1. Copy and cut cards and visuals apart. It is advisable to make a set of cards for every pair of students.
2. Instruct students to place the visuals on their desk and then sort the power cards under the correct visual. The teacher should check pairs responses. Note: Students may need to use a copy of the Constitution to help determine which branch has which power.
3. Discuss what difference they see in the different stacks of cards. Discussion should include that the Legislative Branch has more powers than the other two, reflecting the idea that the Founding Fathers put more power into the hands of elected representatives.

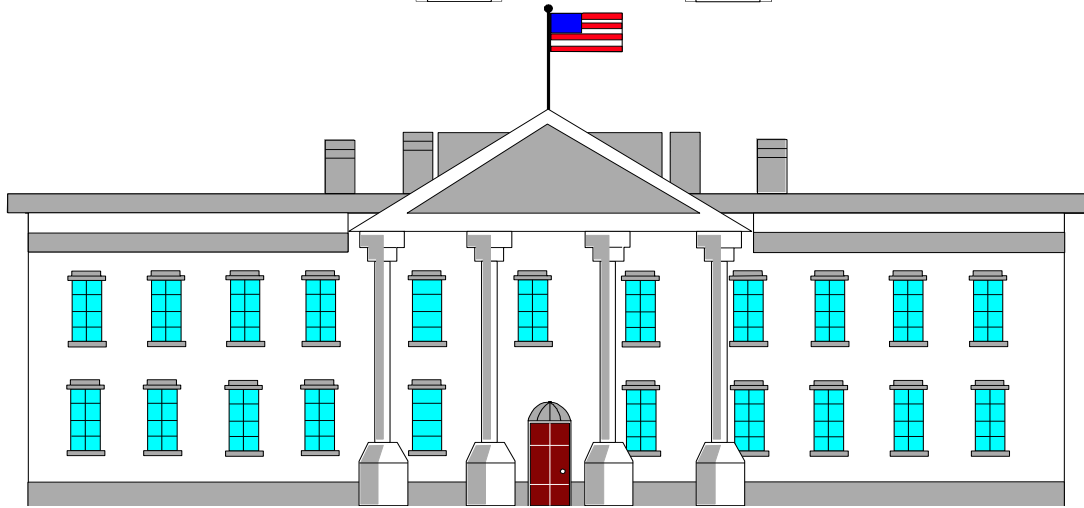
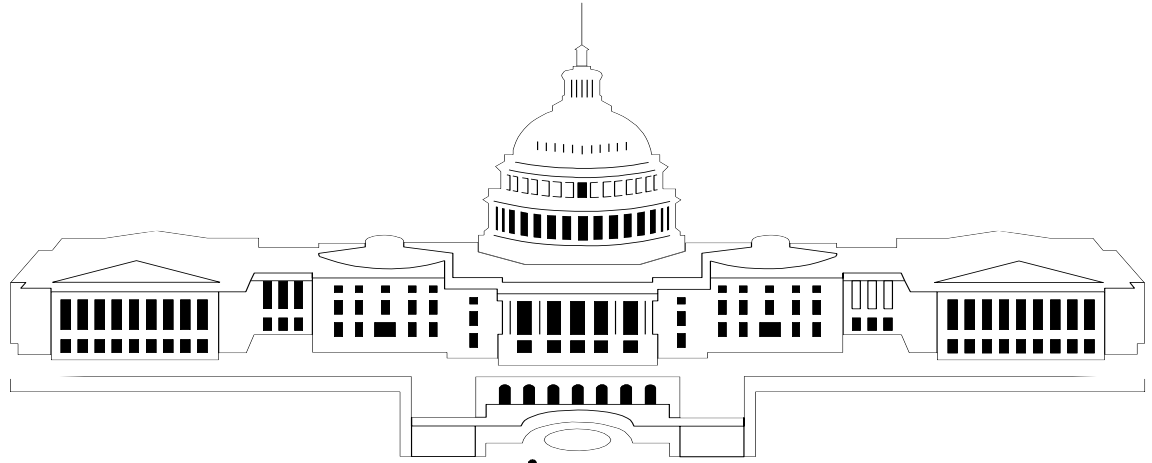
NOTE: This activity is an excellent activity to use prior to the checks and balances activity. Note that visuals are the same;

Suggested Key:

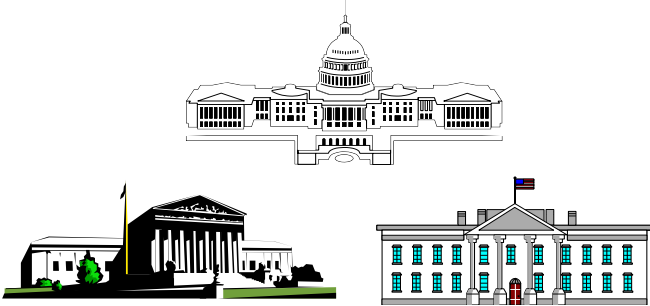
Legislative Branch—to create lower courts, to regulate interstate commerce, to propose Constitutional amendments, to make laws, to elect the President if there is no majority in the electoral college, to increase income taxes, to declare war, to appropriate money, to approve appointments, to ratify treaties, to override vetoes, to impeach

Executive Branch—to call special sessions, to veto bills, to make treaties, to enforce laws, to pardon federal convicts, to enforce court decisions, to recommend legislation, to make appointments, to commit troops into battle.

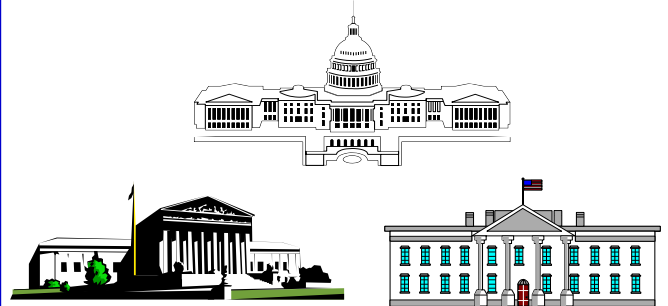
Judicial Branch—power of judicial review, to settle disputes between two states, to interpret laws and settle disputes.



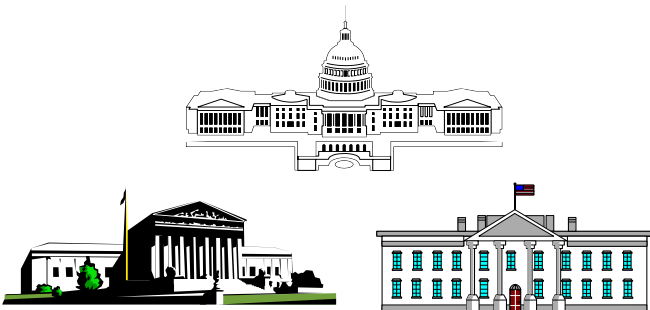
## **Power to impeach**



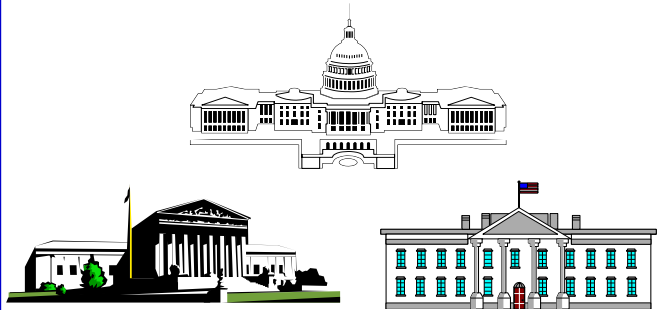
## **Power to declare war**



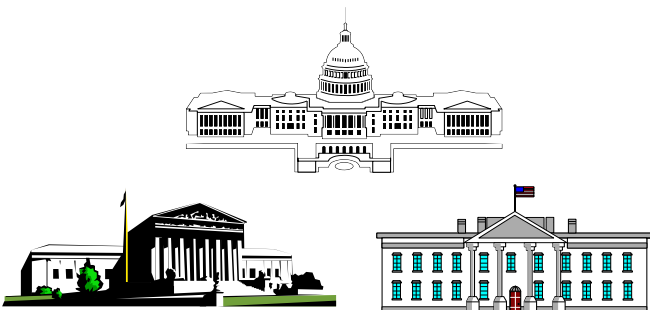
## **Power to override vetoes**



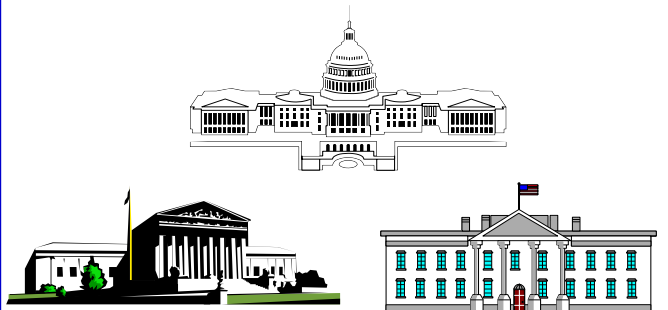
## **Power to appropriate money**



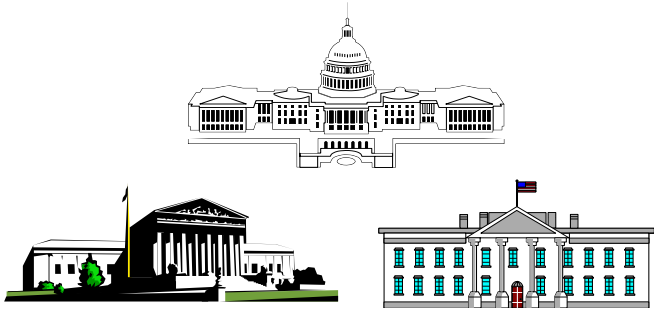
## **Power to approve appointments**



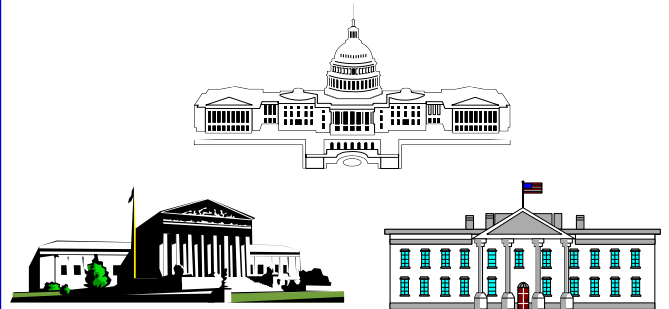
## **Power to ratify treaties**



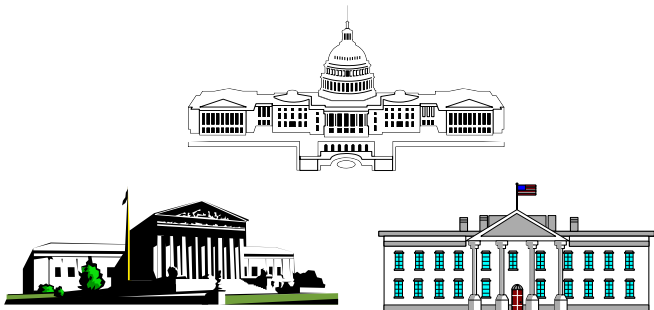
**Power to make laws**



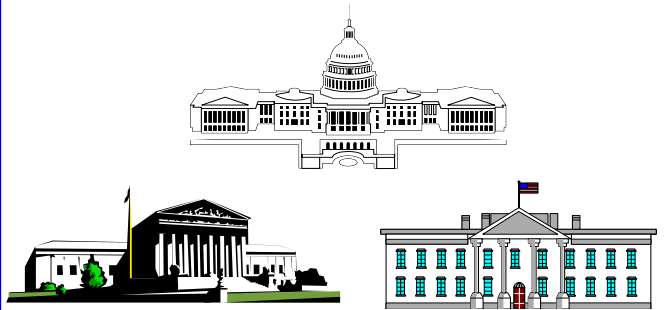
**Power to recommend legislation**



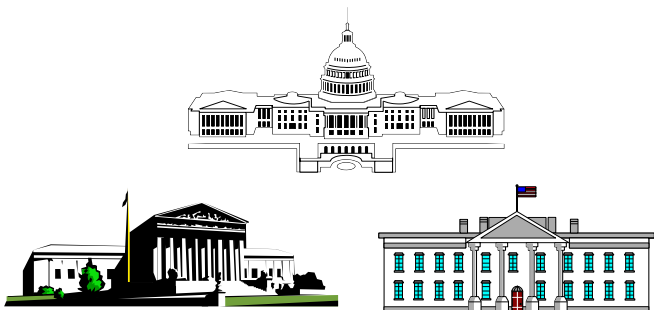
**Power to increase income taxes**



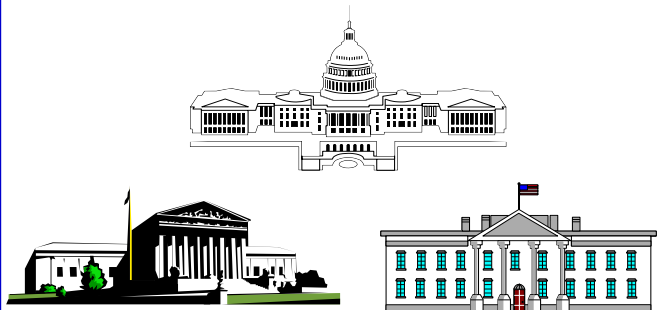
**Power to enforce laws**



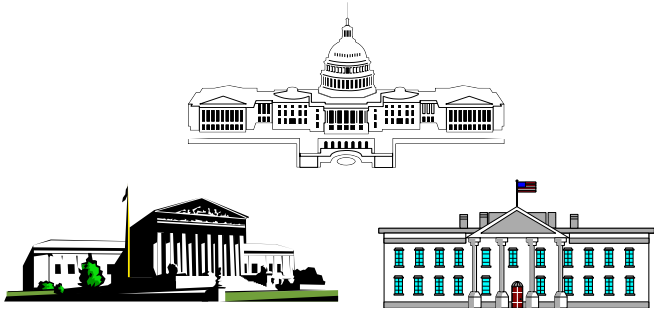
**Power to commit troops into battle**



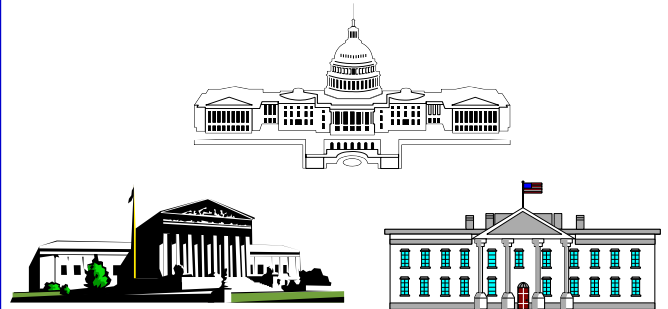
**Power to make appointments**



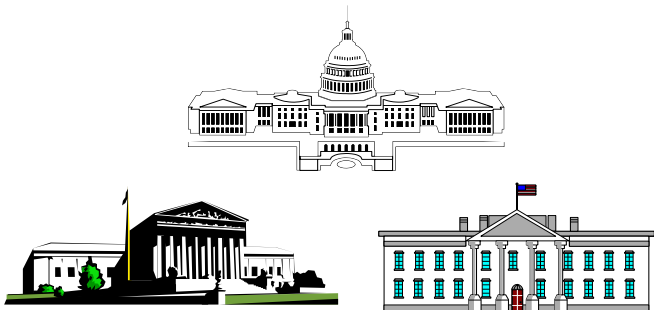
## **Power to veto bills**



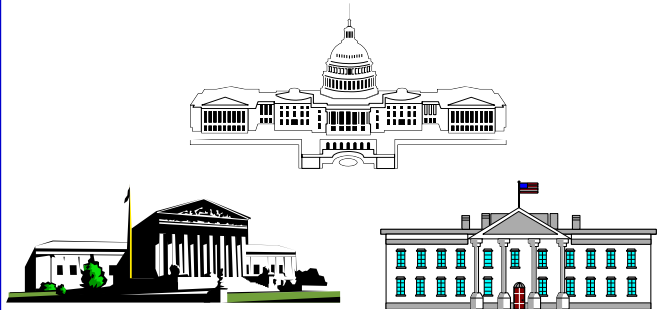
## **Power to enforce court decisions**



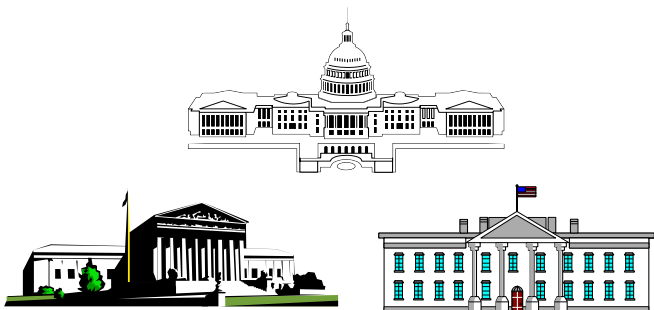
## **Power to call special sessions**



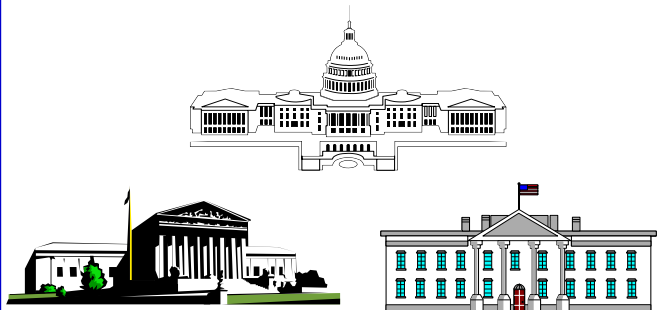
## **Power of judicial review**



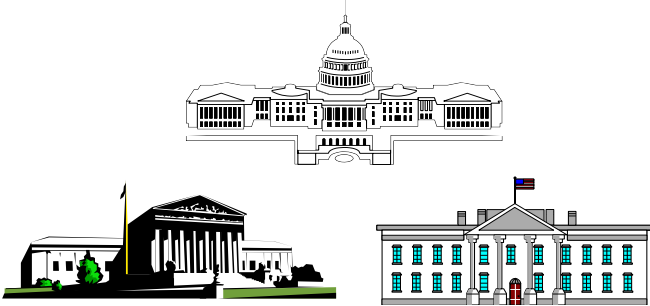
## **Power to settle disputes between two states**



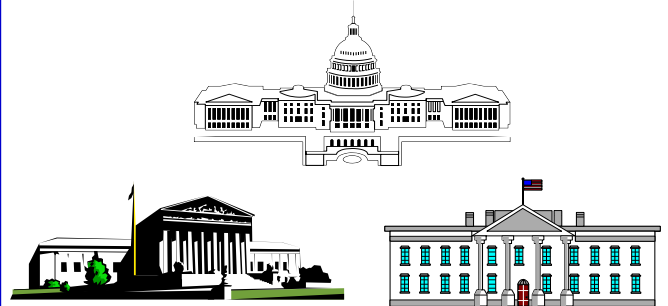
## **Power to make treaties**



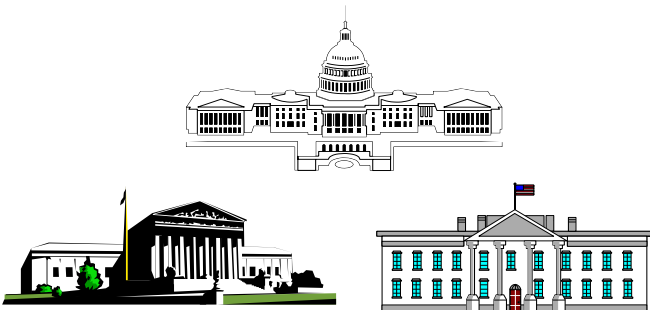
**Power to create  
lower courts**



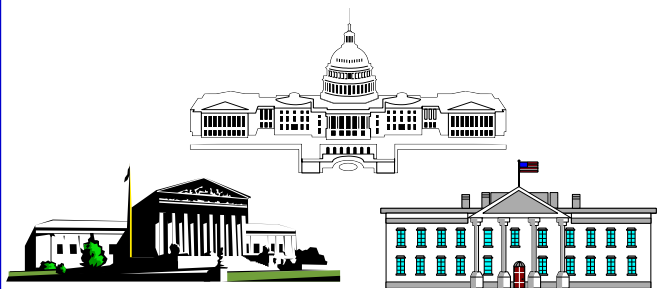
**Power to pardon  
federal convicts**



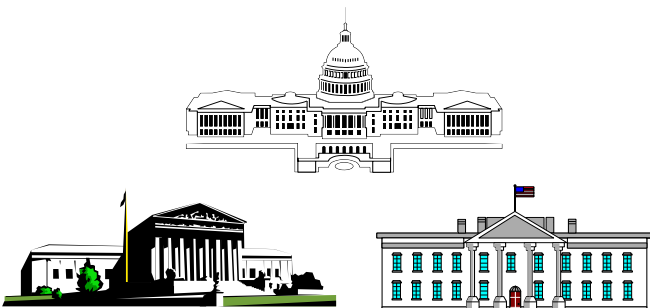
**Power to regulate  
interstate commerce**



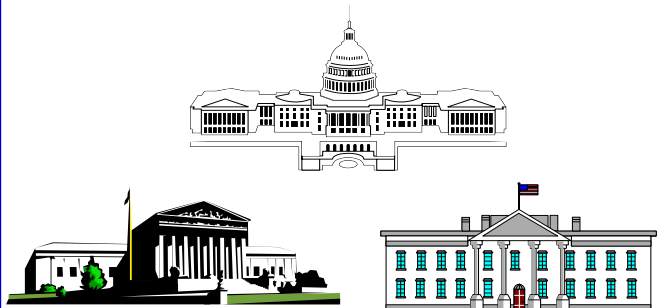
**Power to interpret  
laws and settle  
disputes**

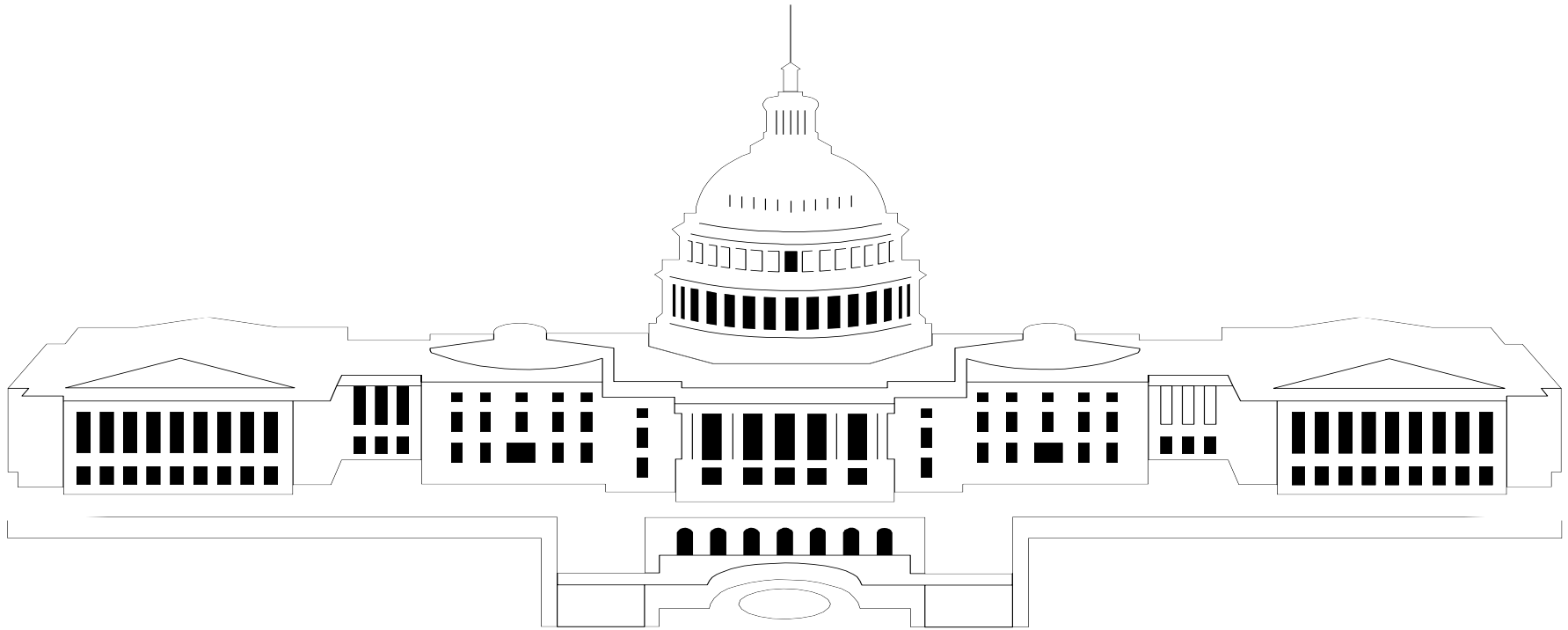


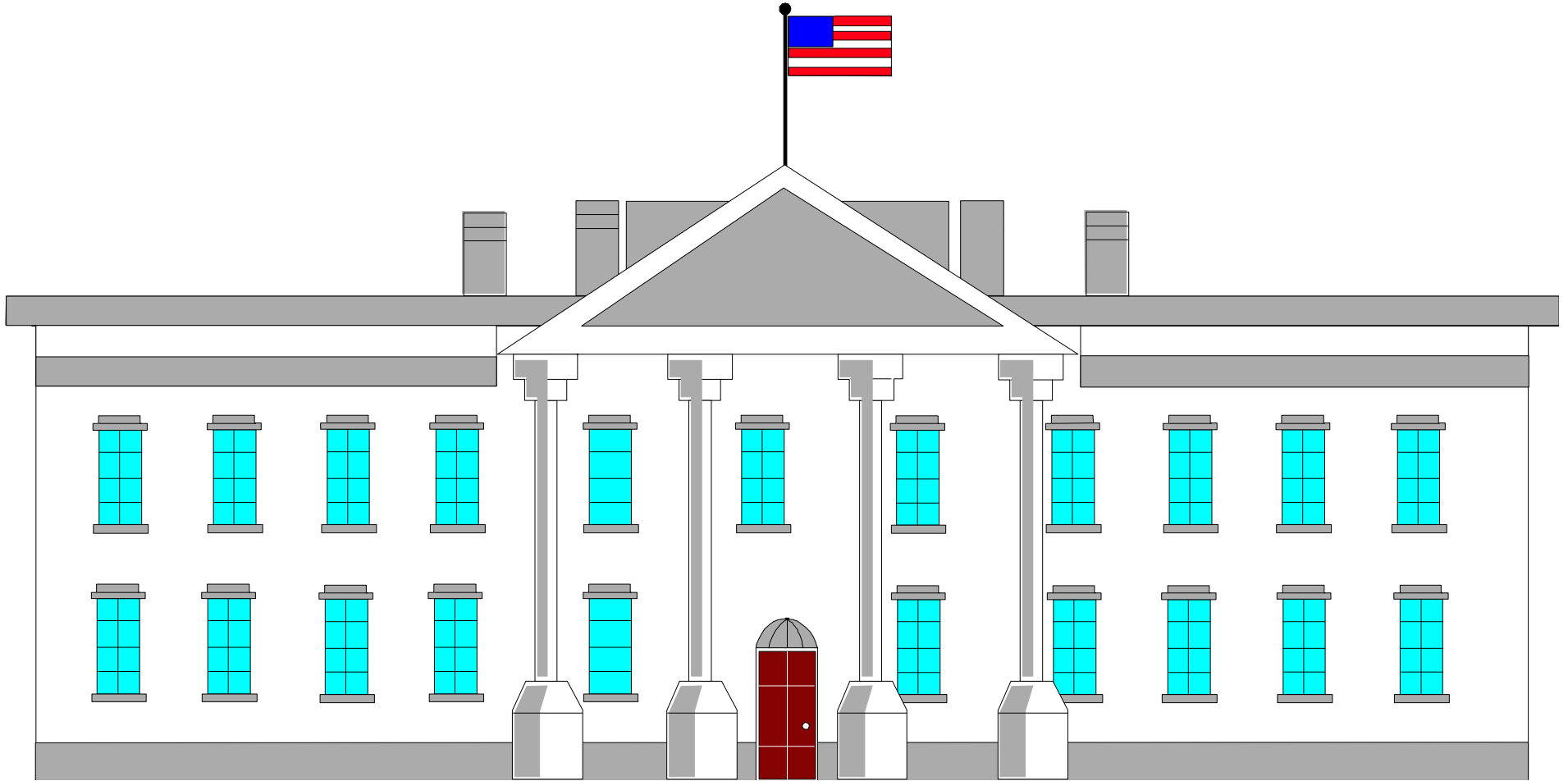
**Power to elect the  
President if there is no  
majority in the  
Electoral College.**



**Power to propose  
constitutional  
amendments**

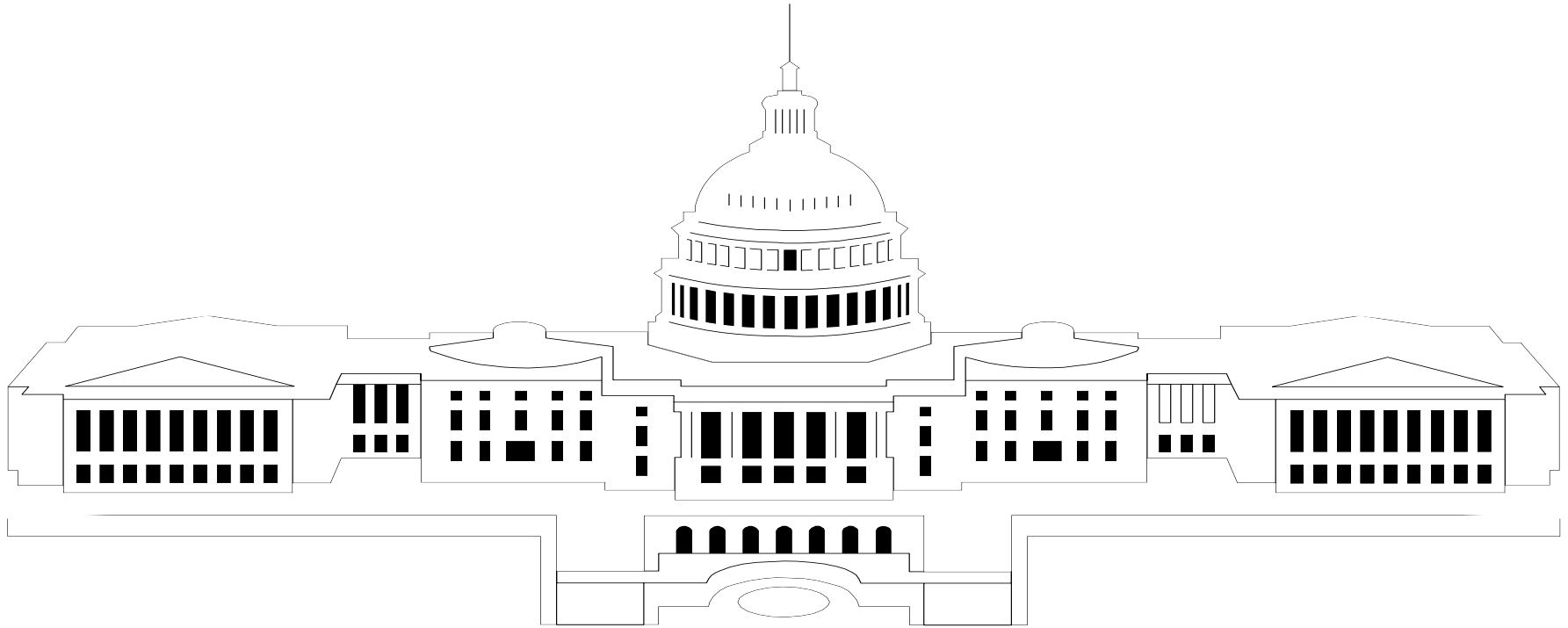




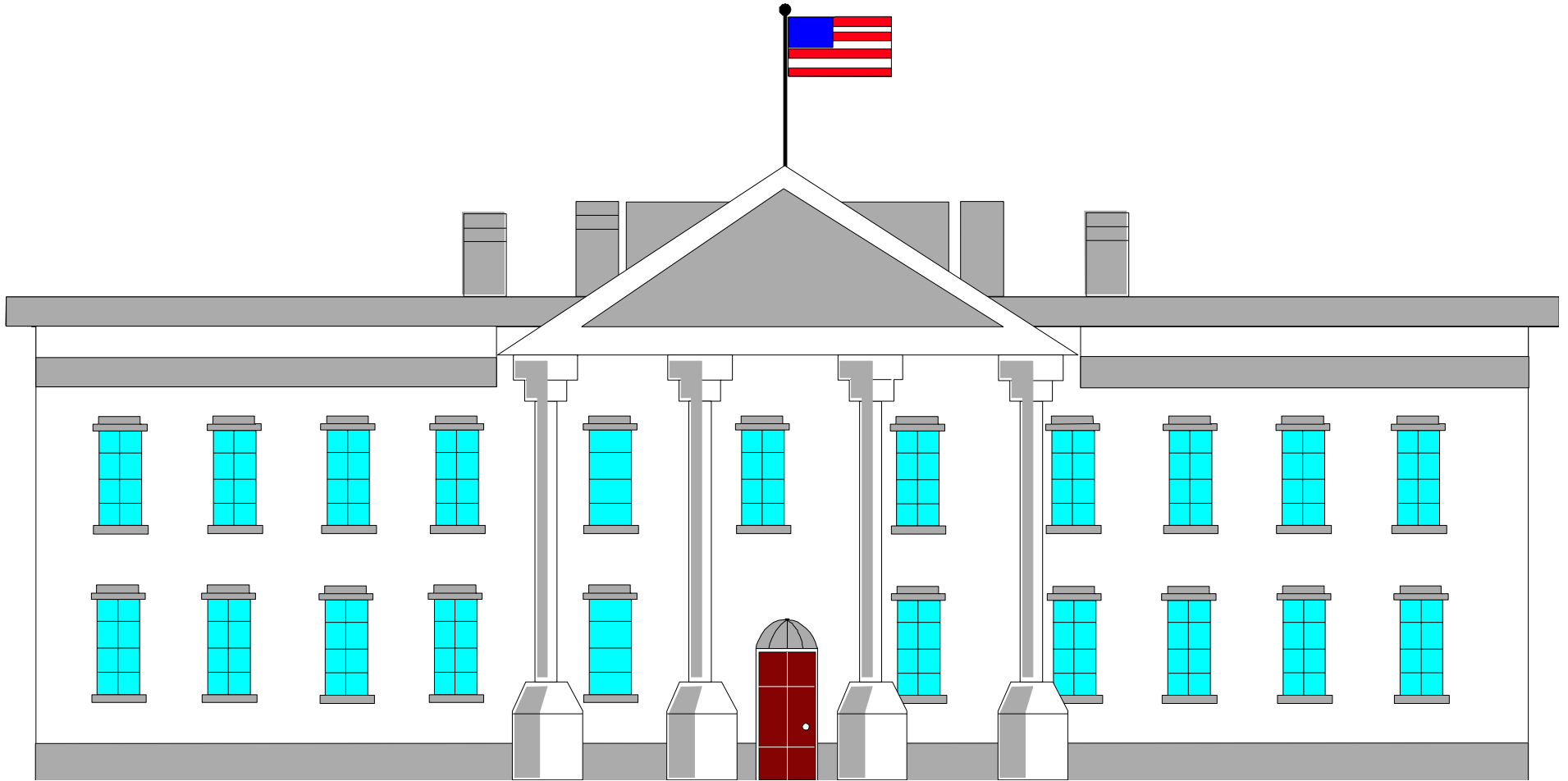








**LEGISLATIVE**

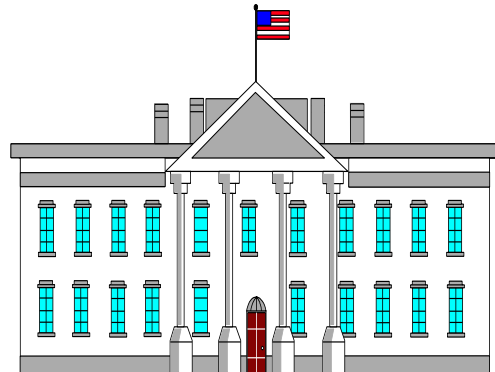
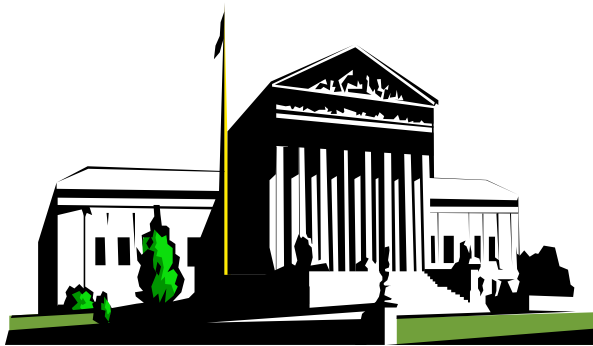
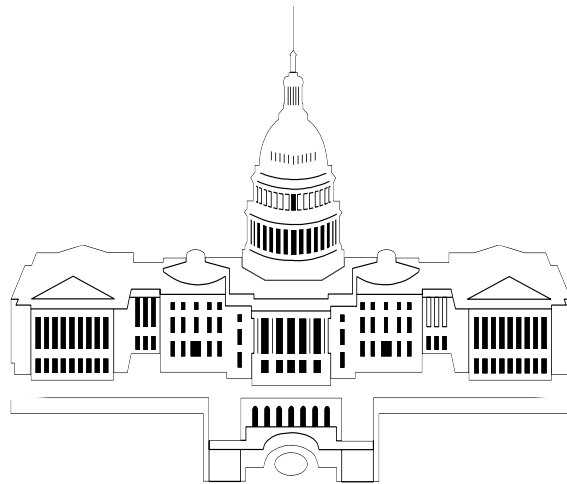


EXECUTIVE

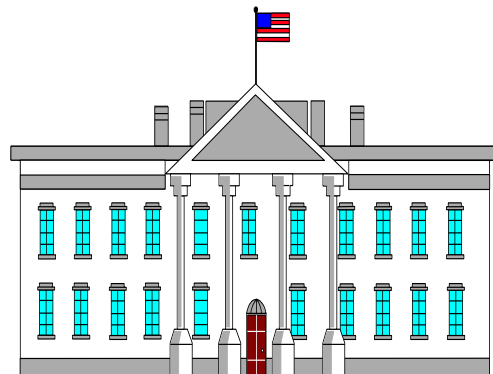
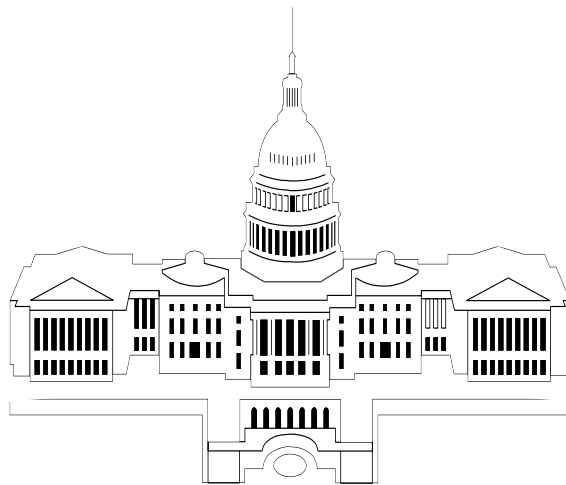


JUDICIAL

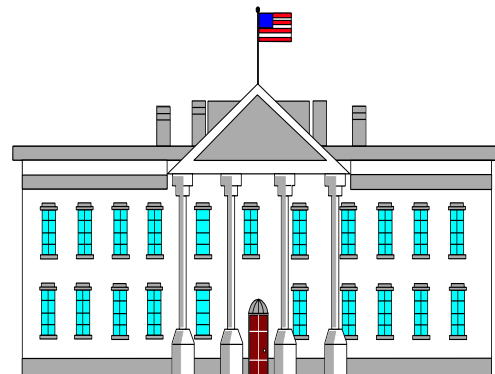
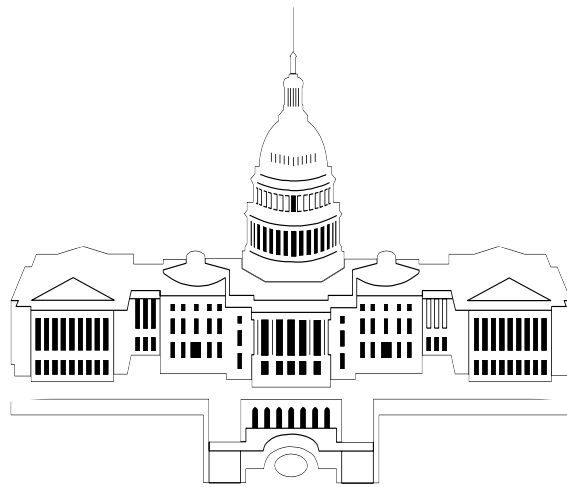
# Power to impeach



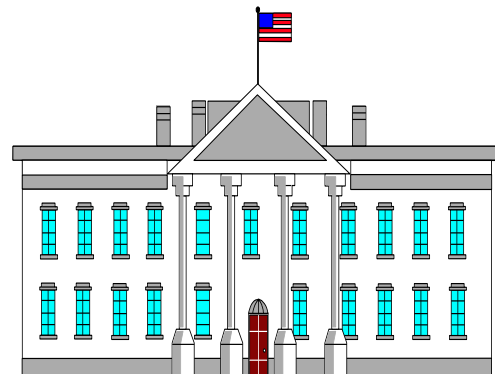
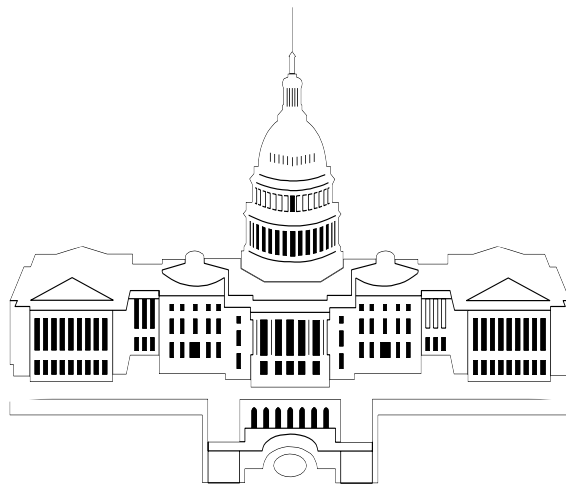
# Power to declare war



# Power to approve appointments

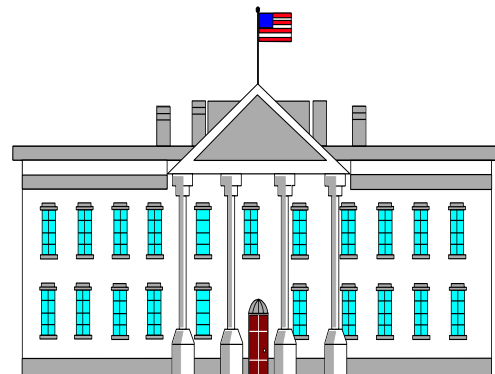
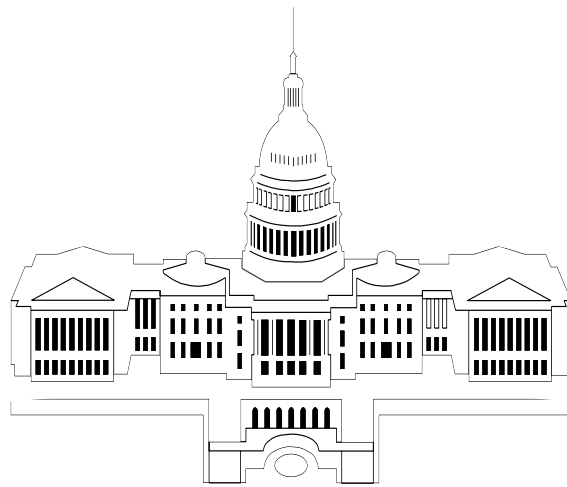


# Power to ratify treaties

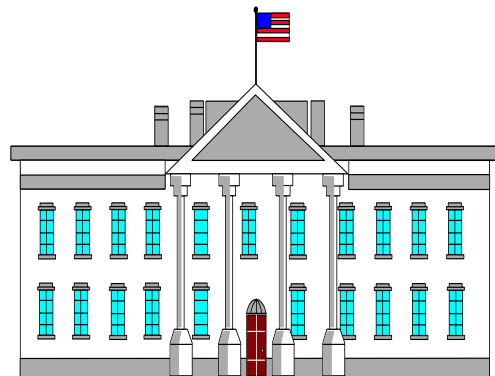
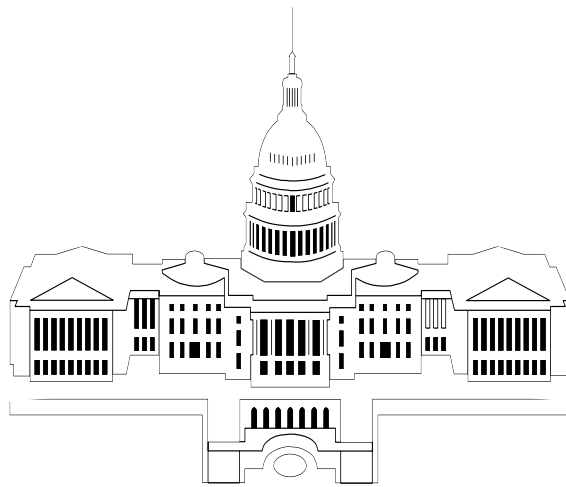




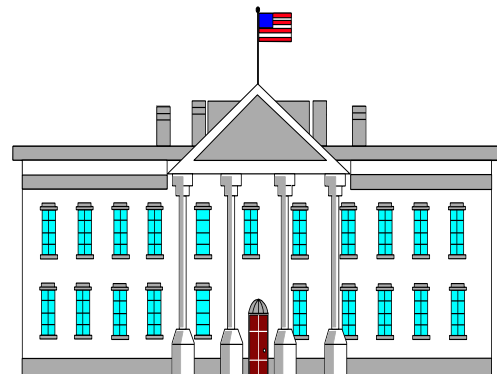
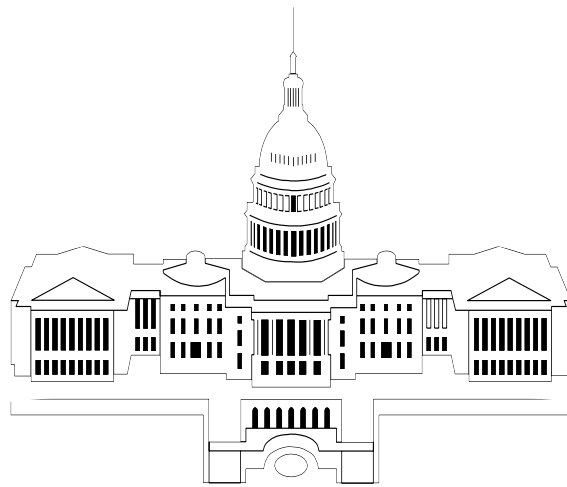
# **Power to recommend legislation**



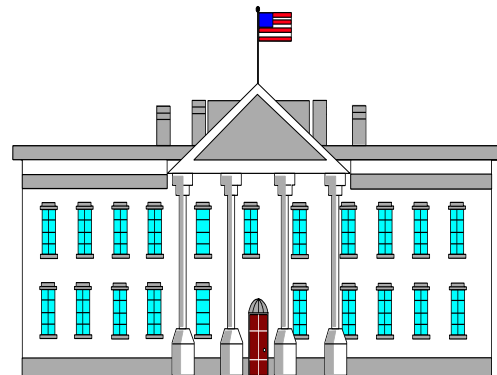
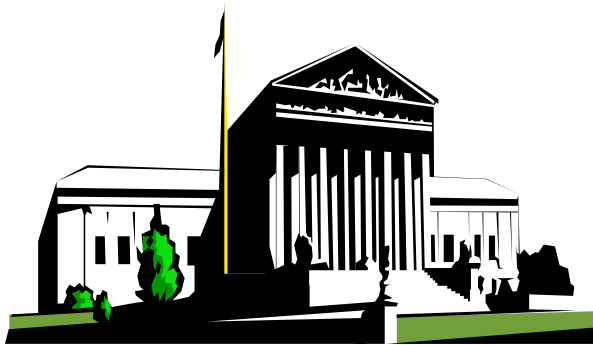
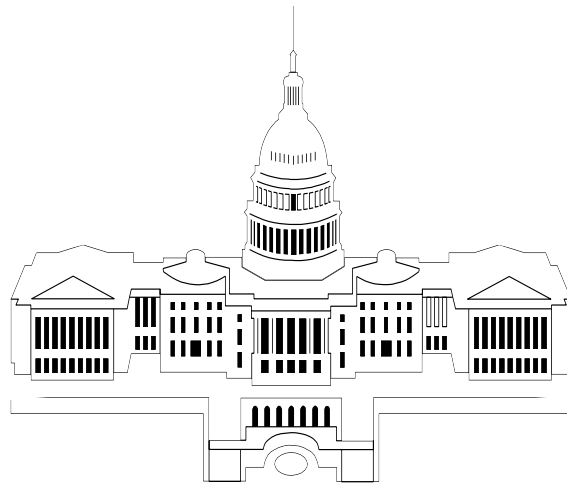
# Power to make laws



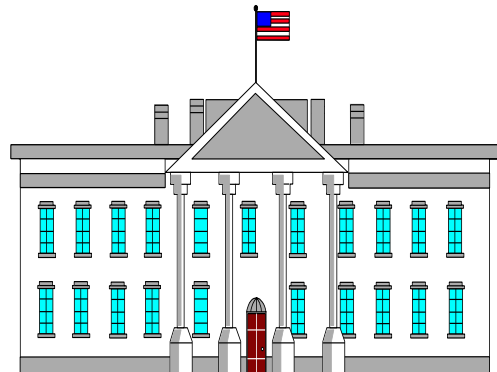
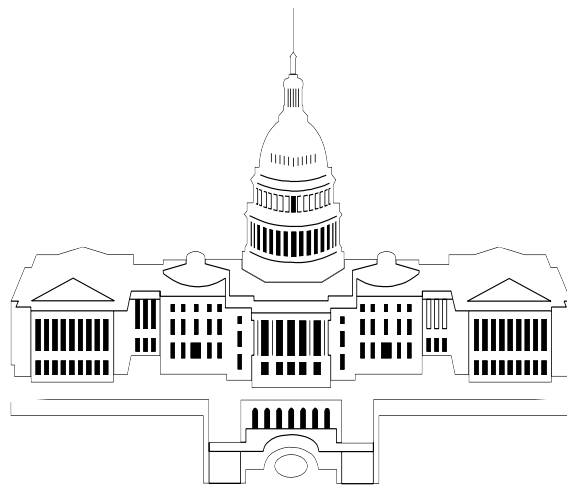
# **Power to increase income taxes**



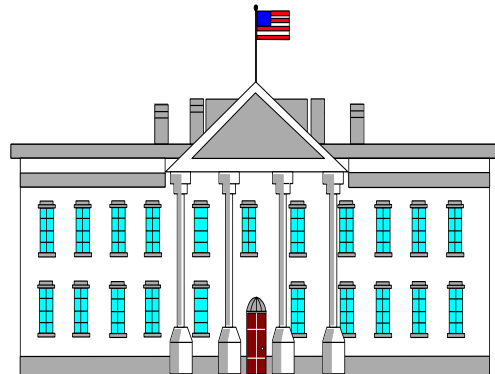
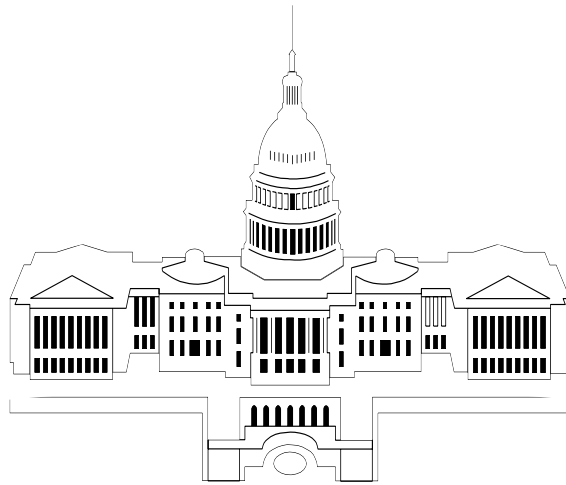
# Power to enforce laws



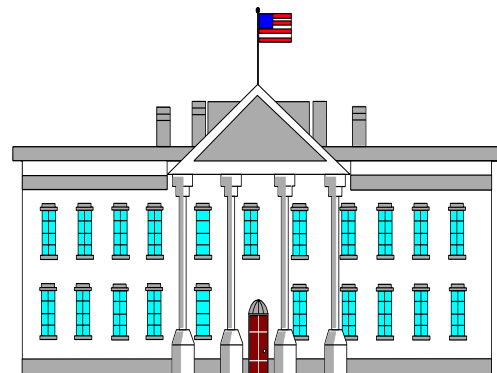
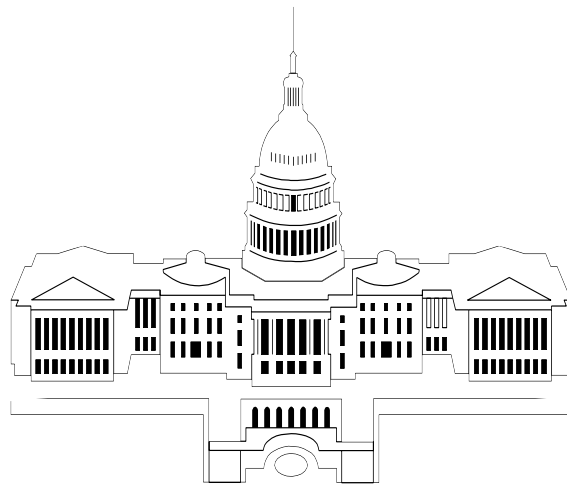
# **Power to commit troops into battle**



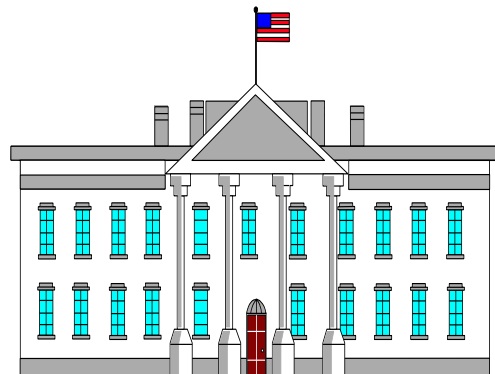
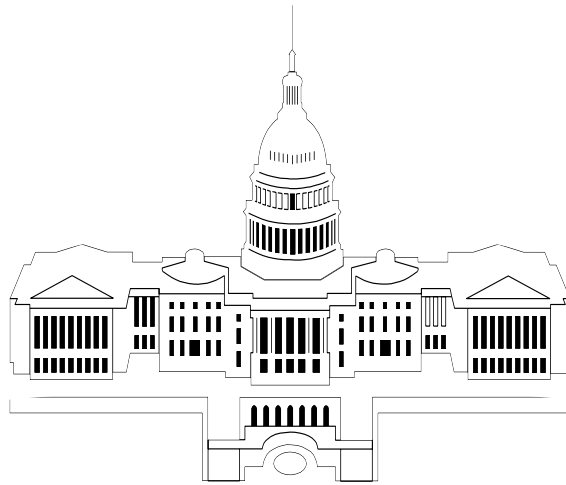
# Power to make appointments



# Power to enforce court decisions

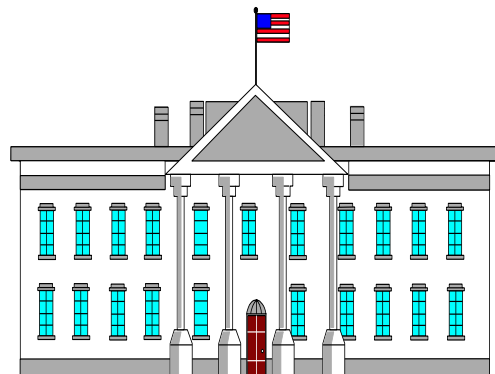
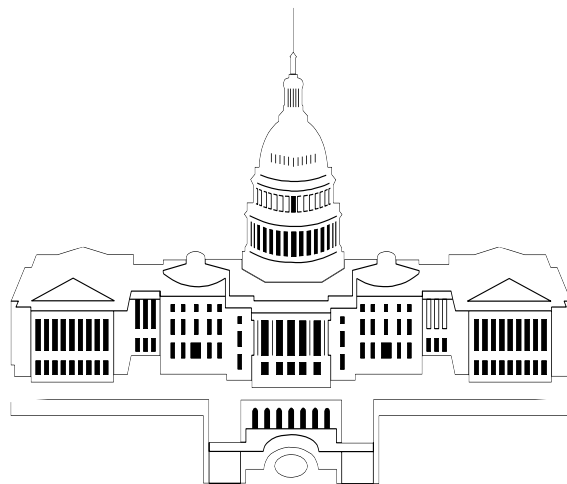


# Power to veto bills

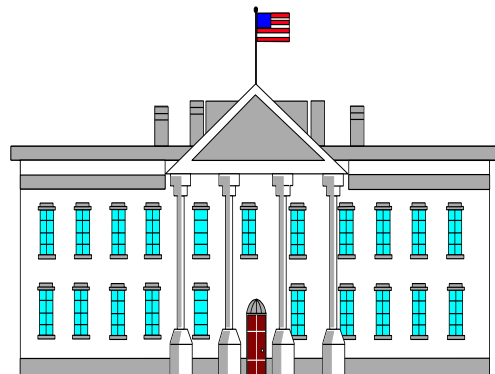
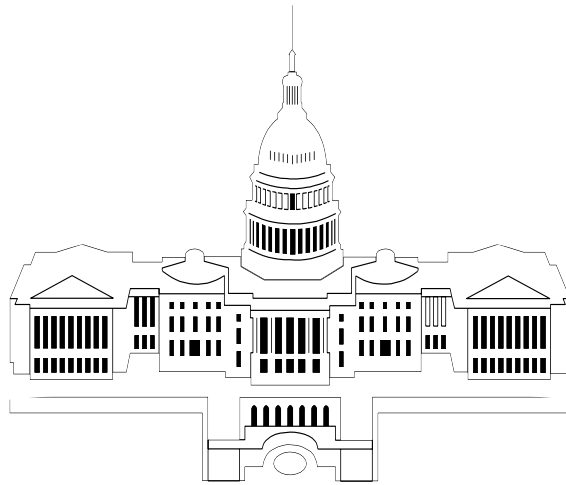




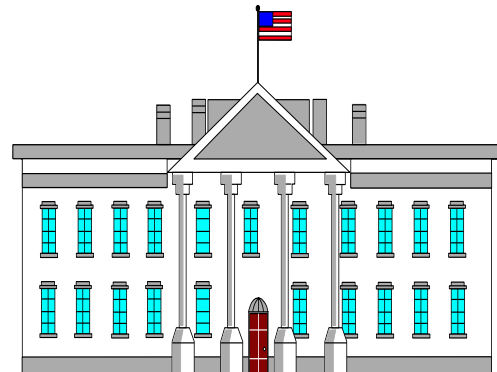
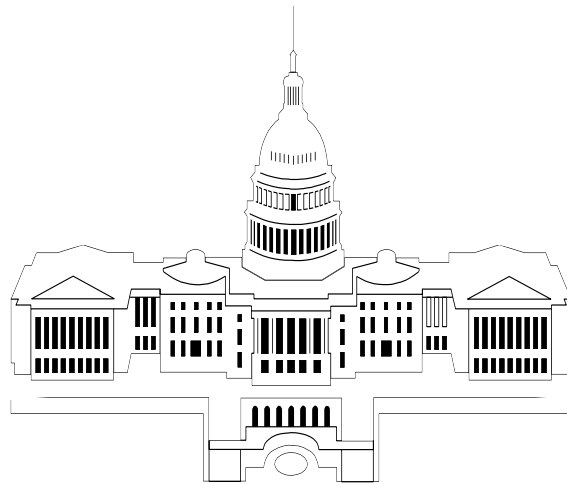
# **Power to call special sessions**



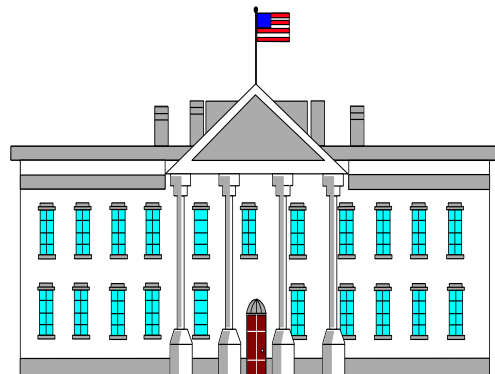
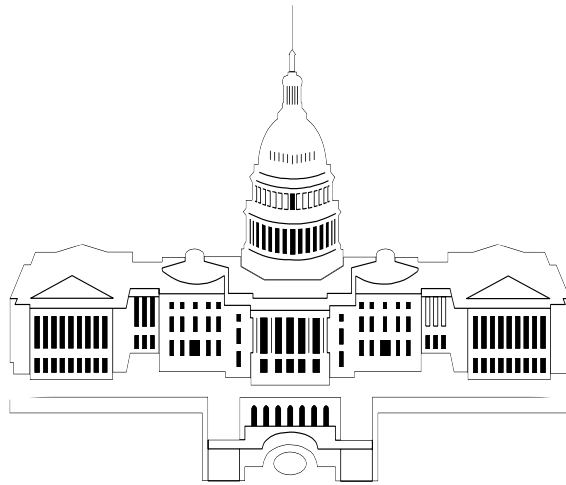
# Power of judicial review



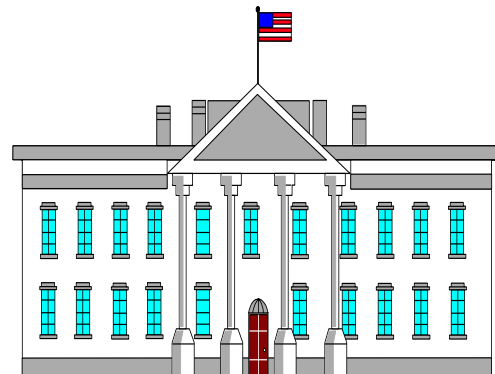
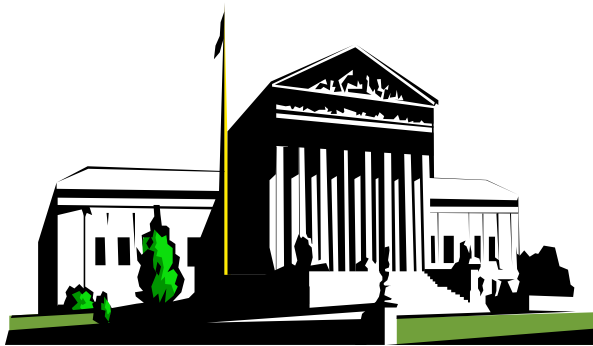
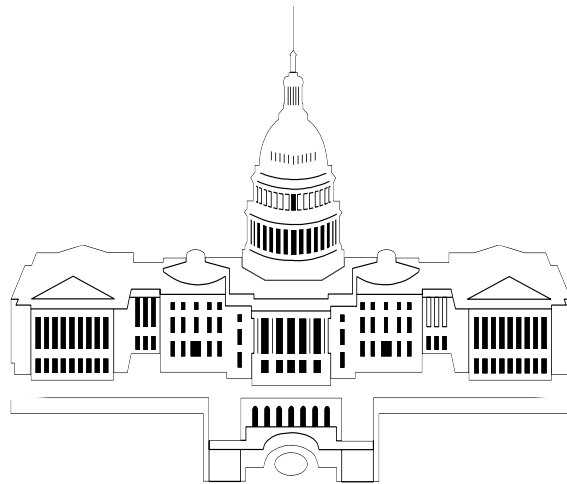
# **Power to settle disputes between two states**



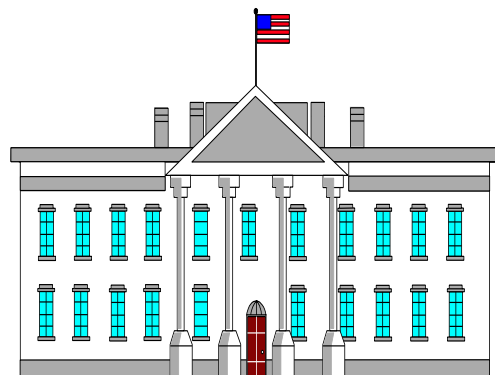
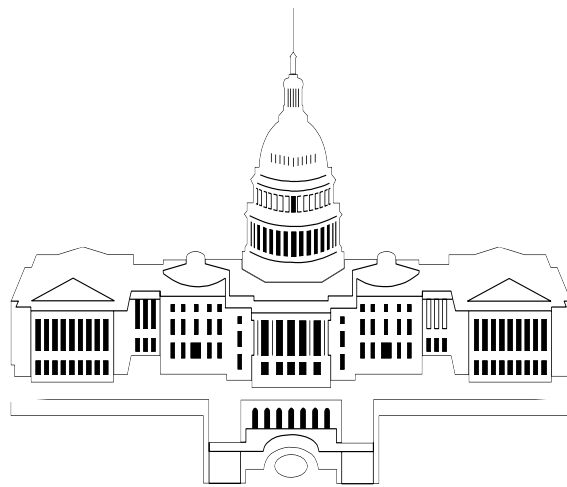
# Power to make treaties



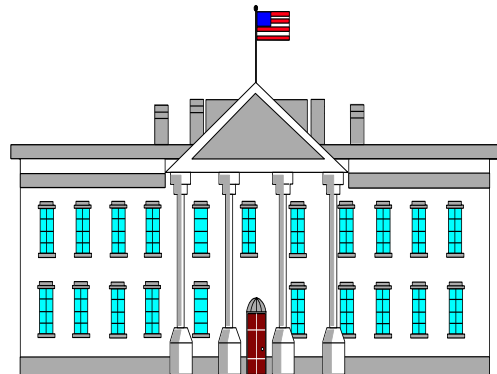
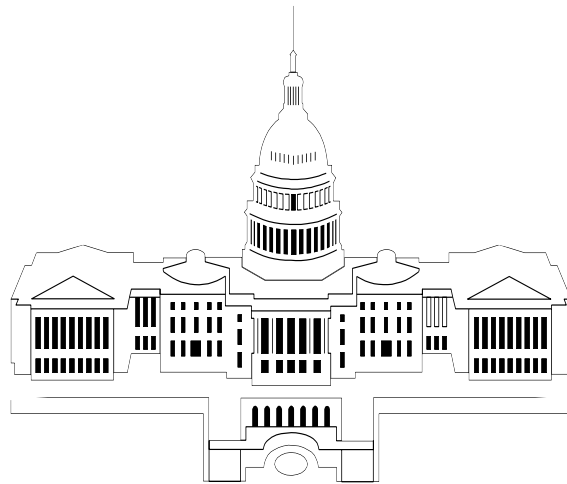
# **Power to create lower courts**



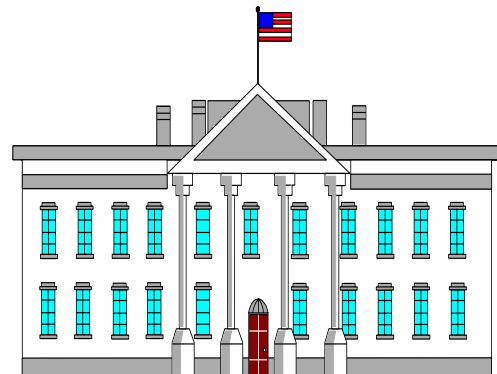
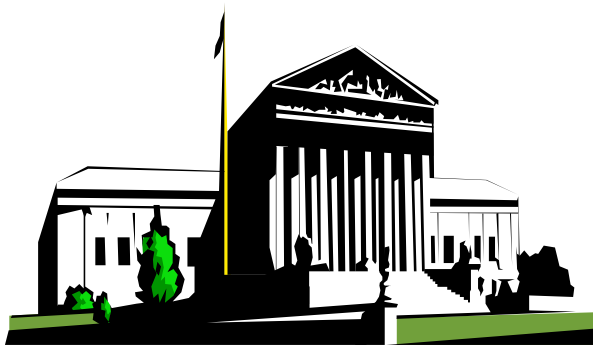
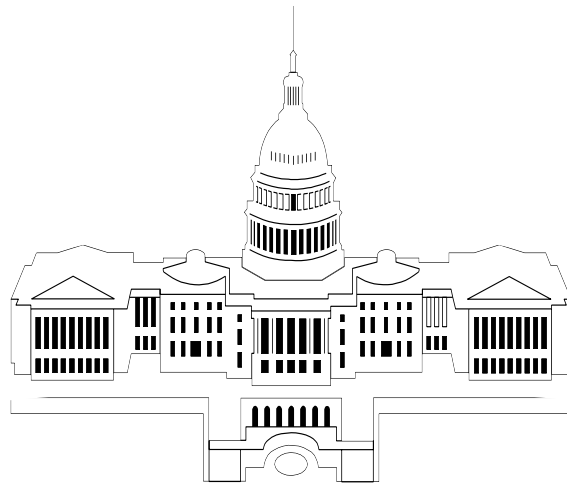
# **Power to pardon federal convicts**



# **Power to regulate interstate commerce**

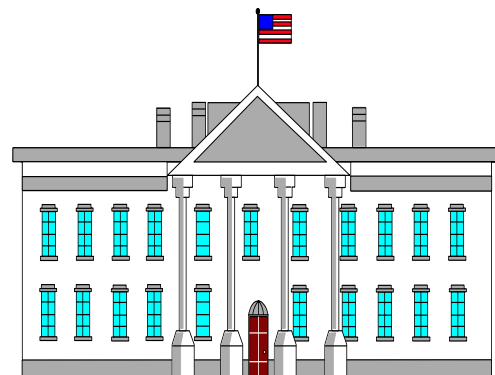
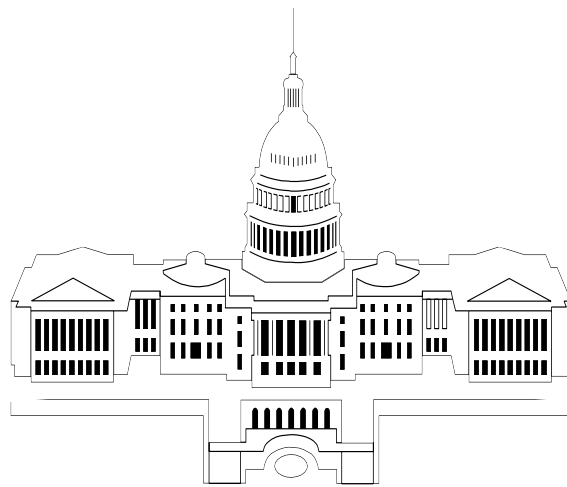


# **Power to interpret laws and settle disputes**

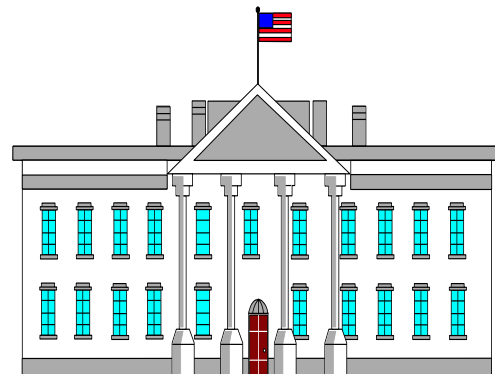
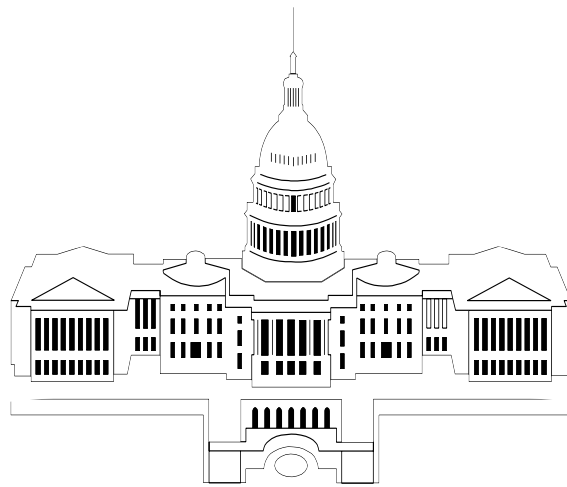




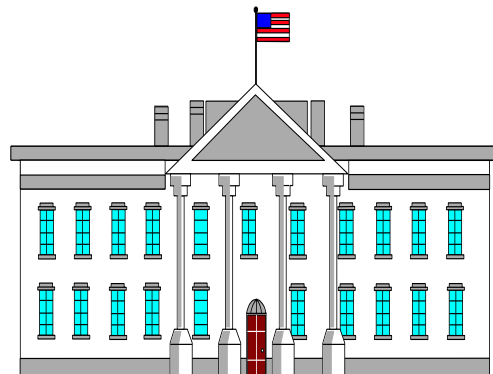
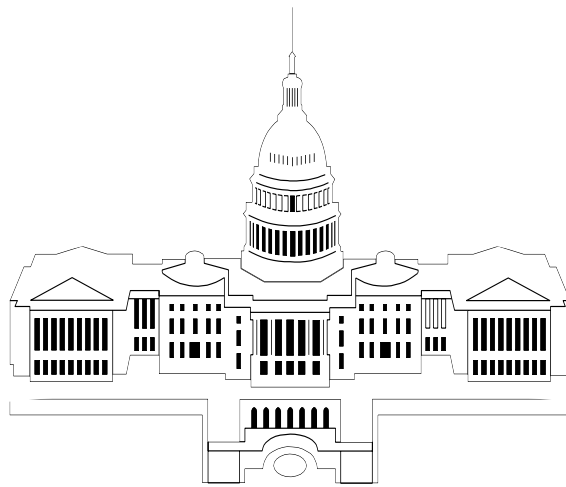
**Power to elect the  
President if there  
is no  
majority in the  
Electoral College.**



# **Power to propose constitutional amendments**



# Power to override vetoes



# **Power to appropriate money**

