



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: Govt 6.D; 7A-C; 7.E

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.

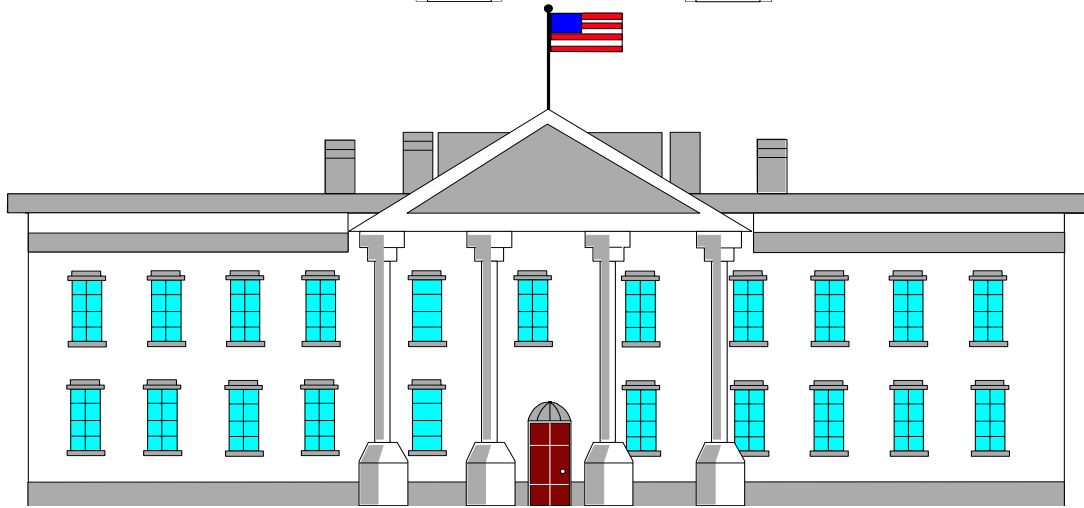
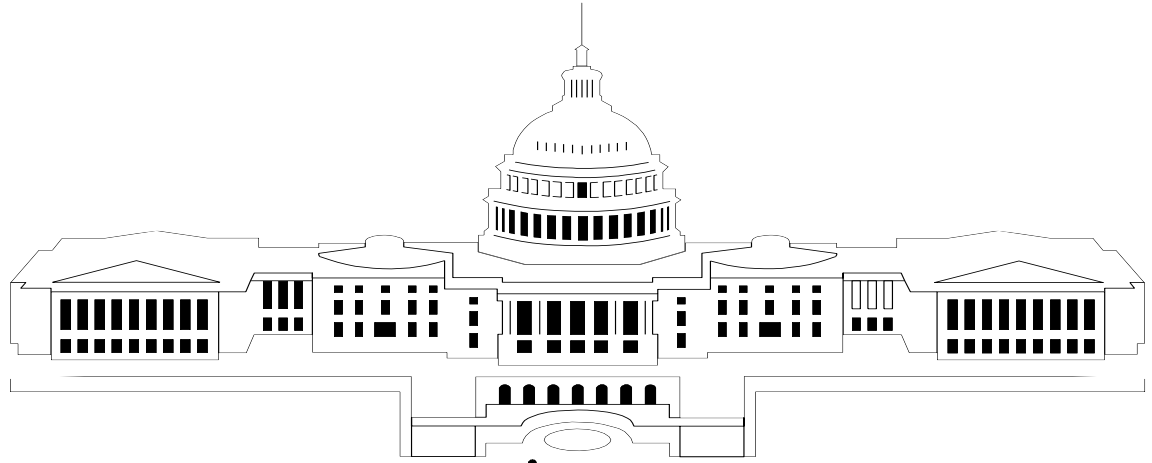
NOTE: This activity is an excellent activity to use prior to the checks and balances activity. Note that visuals are the same;

Suggested Key:

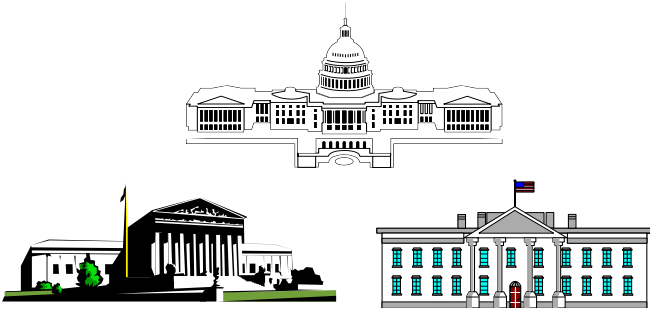
Legislative Branch—to create lower courts, to regulate interstate commerce, to propose Constitutional amendments, to make laws, to elect the President if there is no majority in the electoral college, to increase income taxes, to declare war, to appropriate money, to approve appointments, to ratify treaties,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

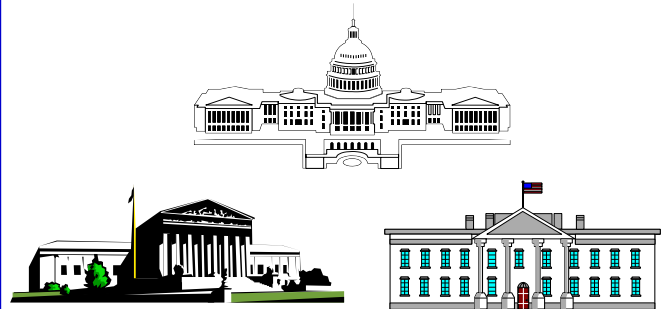
Judicial Branch—power of judicial review, to settle disputes between two states, to interpret laws and settle disputes.



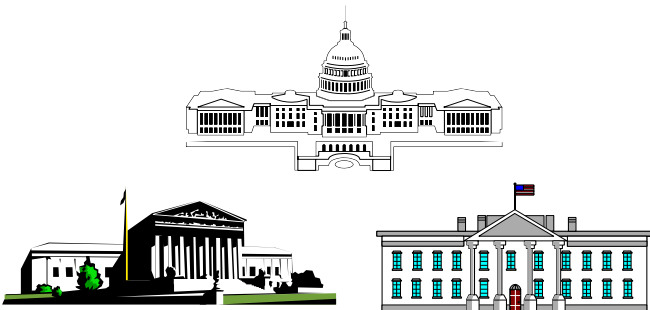
Power to impeach



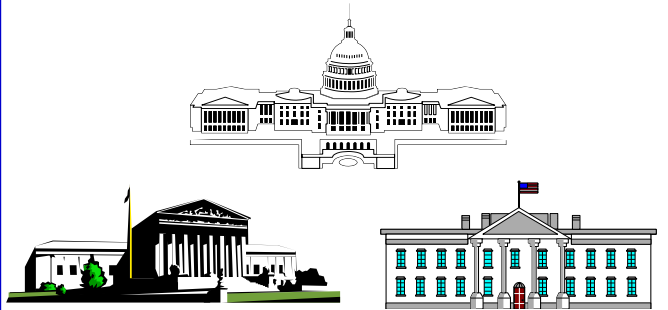
Power to declare war



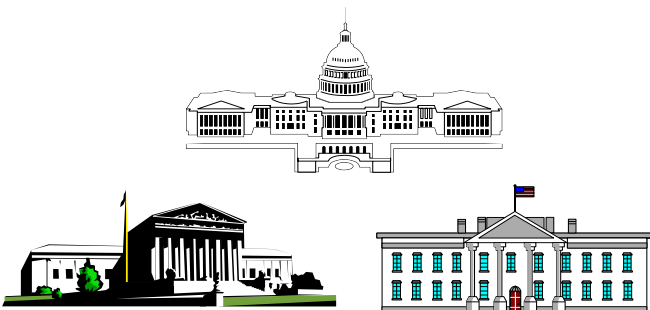
Power to override vetoes



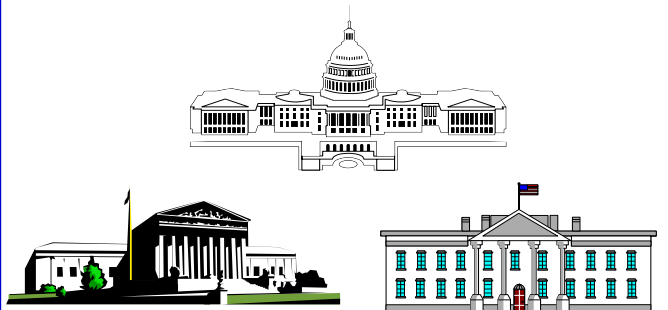
Power to appropriate money



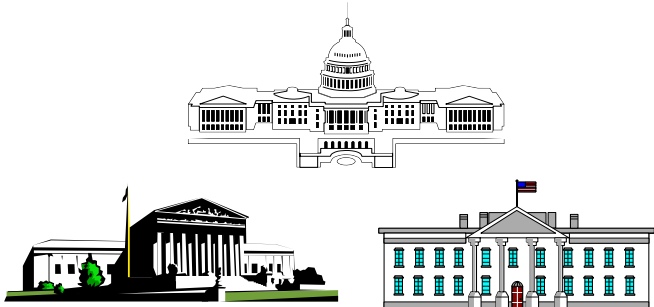
Power to approve appointments



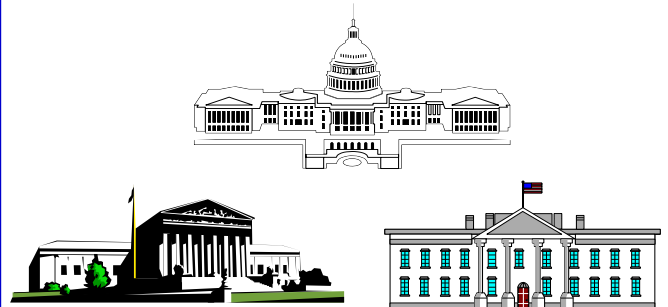
Power to ratify treaties



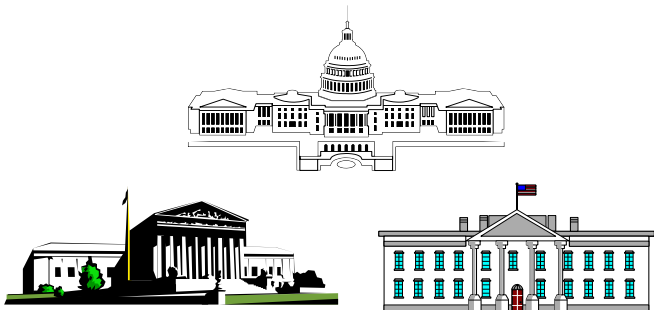
Power to make laws



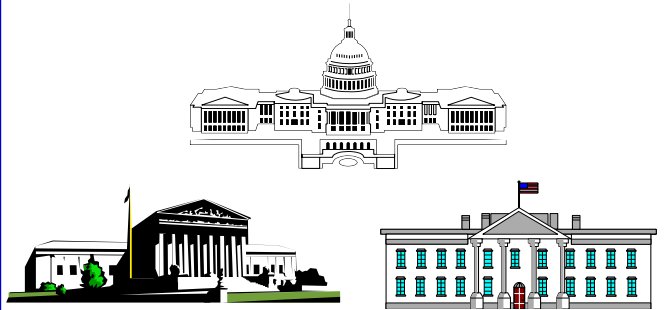
Power to recommend legislation



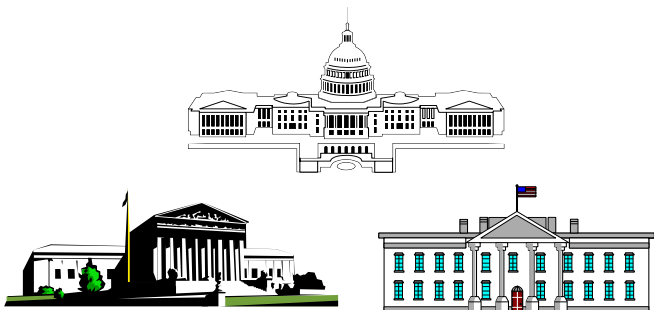
Power to increase income taxes



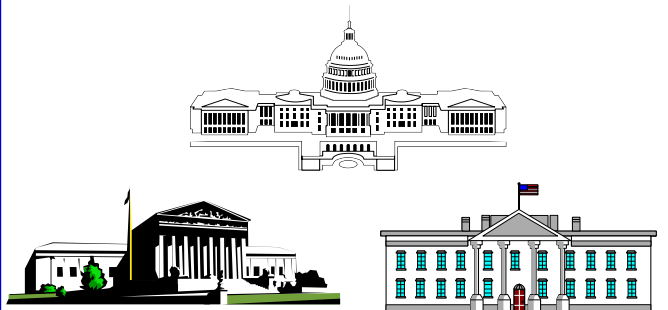
Power to enforce laws



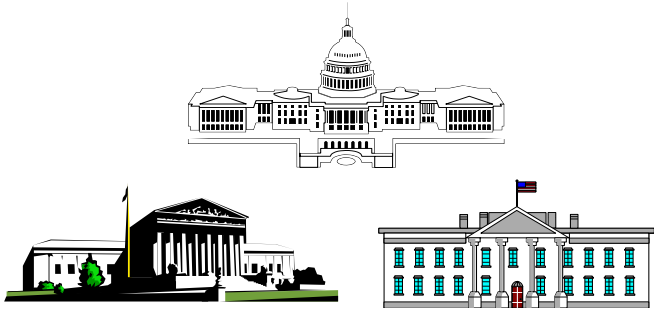
Power to commit troops into battle



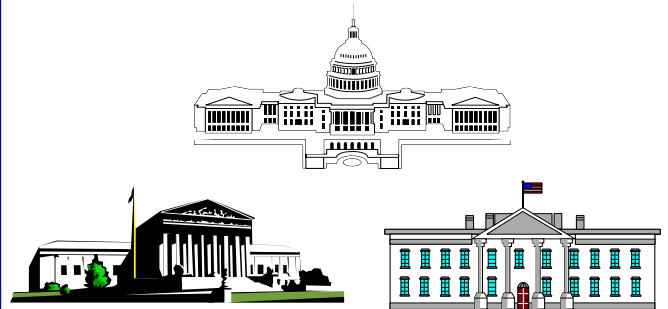
Power to make appointments



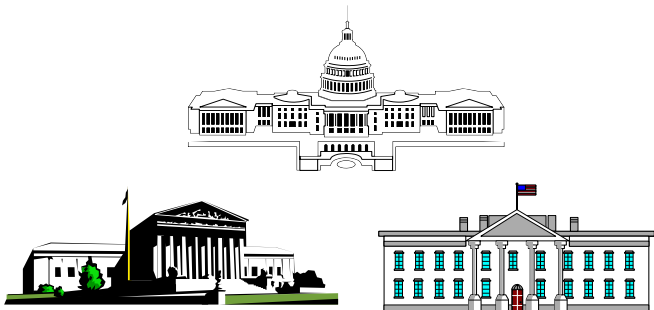
Power to veto bills



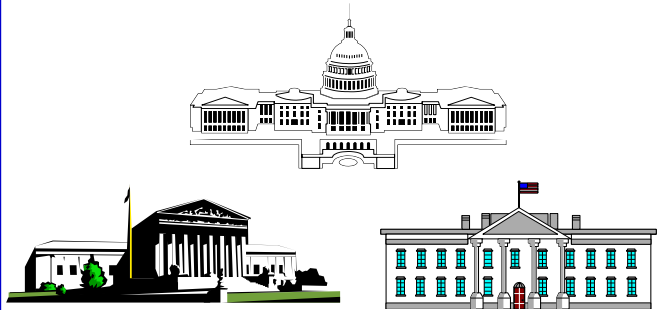
Power to enforce court decisions



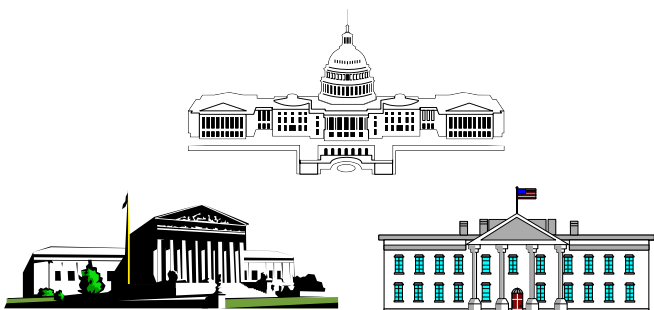
Power to call special sessions



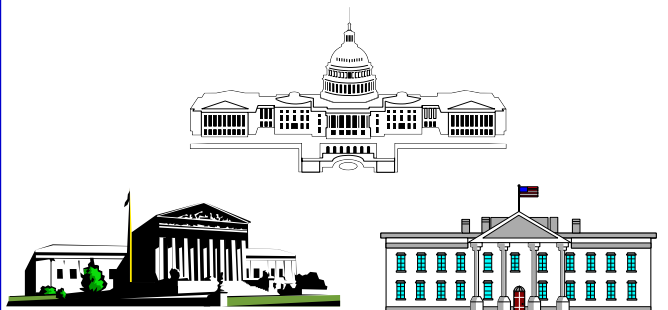
Power of judicial review



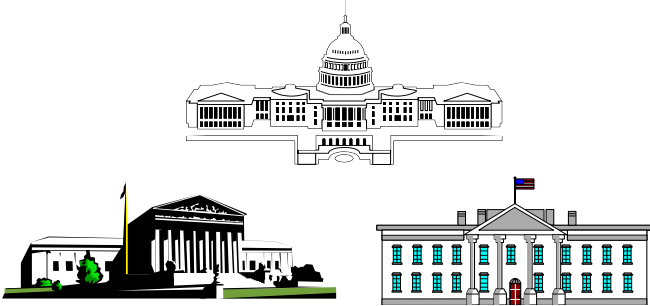
Power to settle disputes between two states



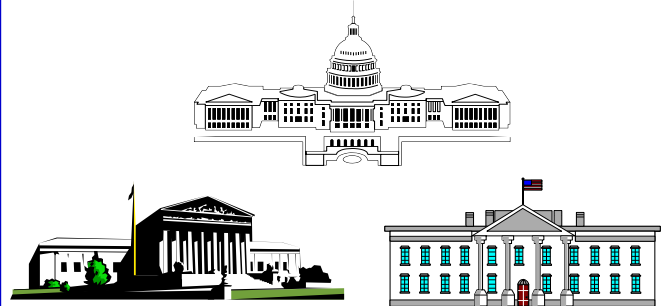
Power to make treaties



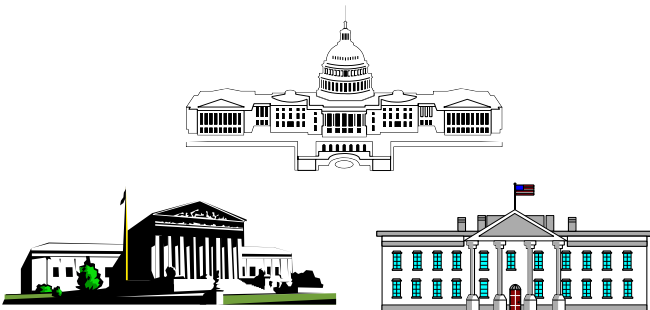
**Power to create
lower courts**



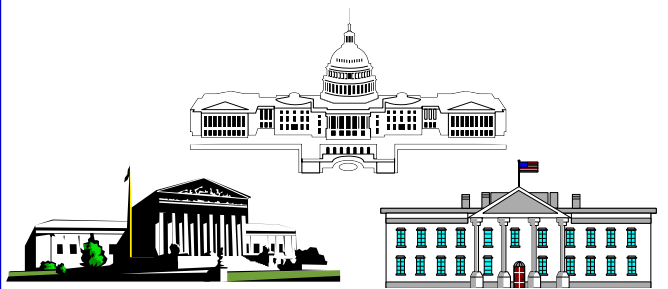
**Power to pardon
federal convicts**



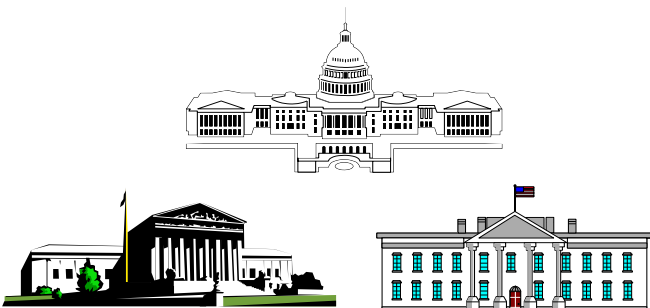
**Power to regulate
interstate commerce**



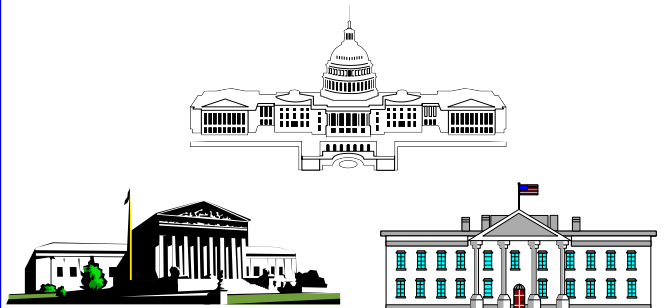
**Power to interpret
laws and settle
disputes**

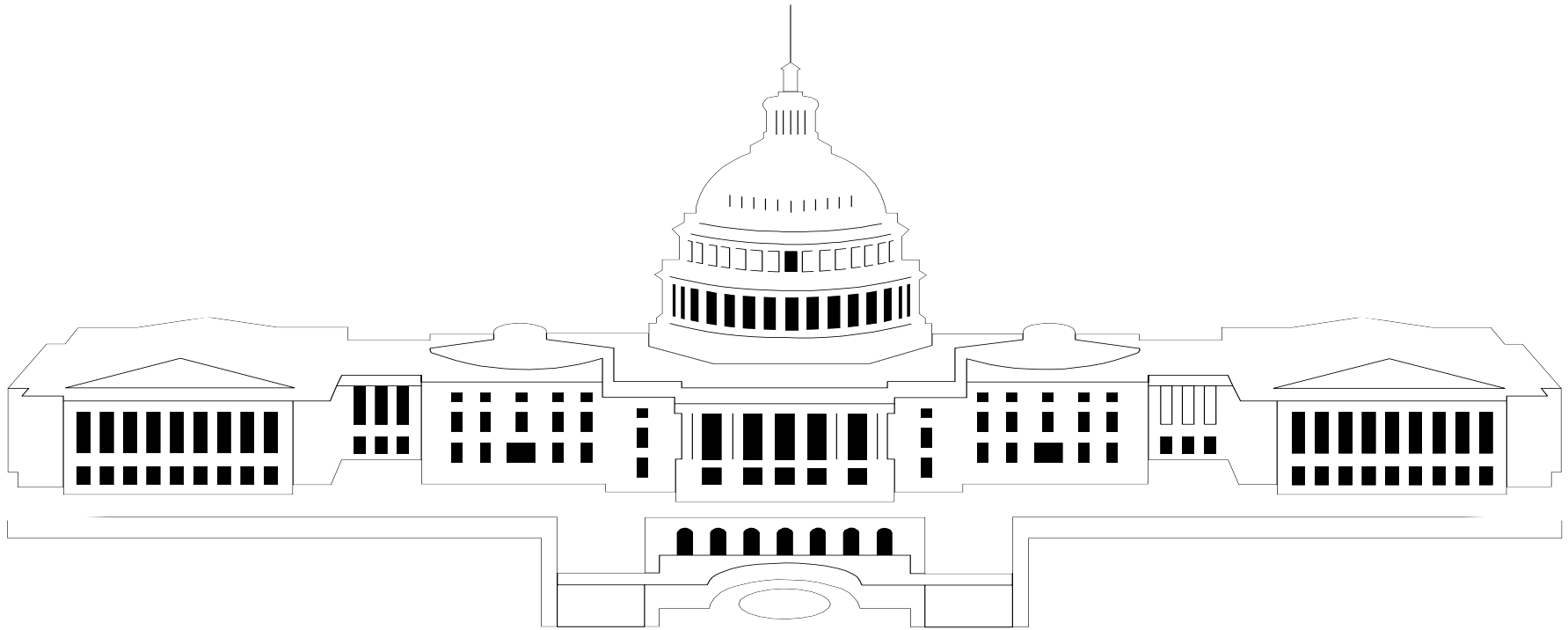


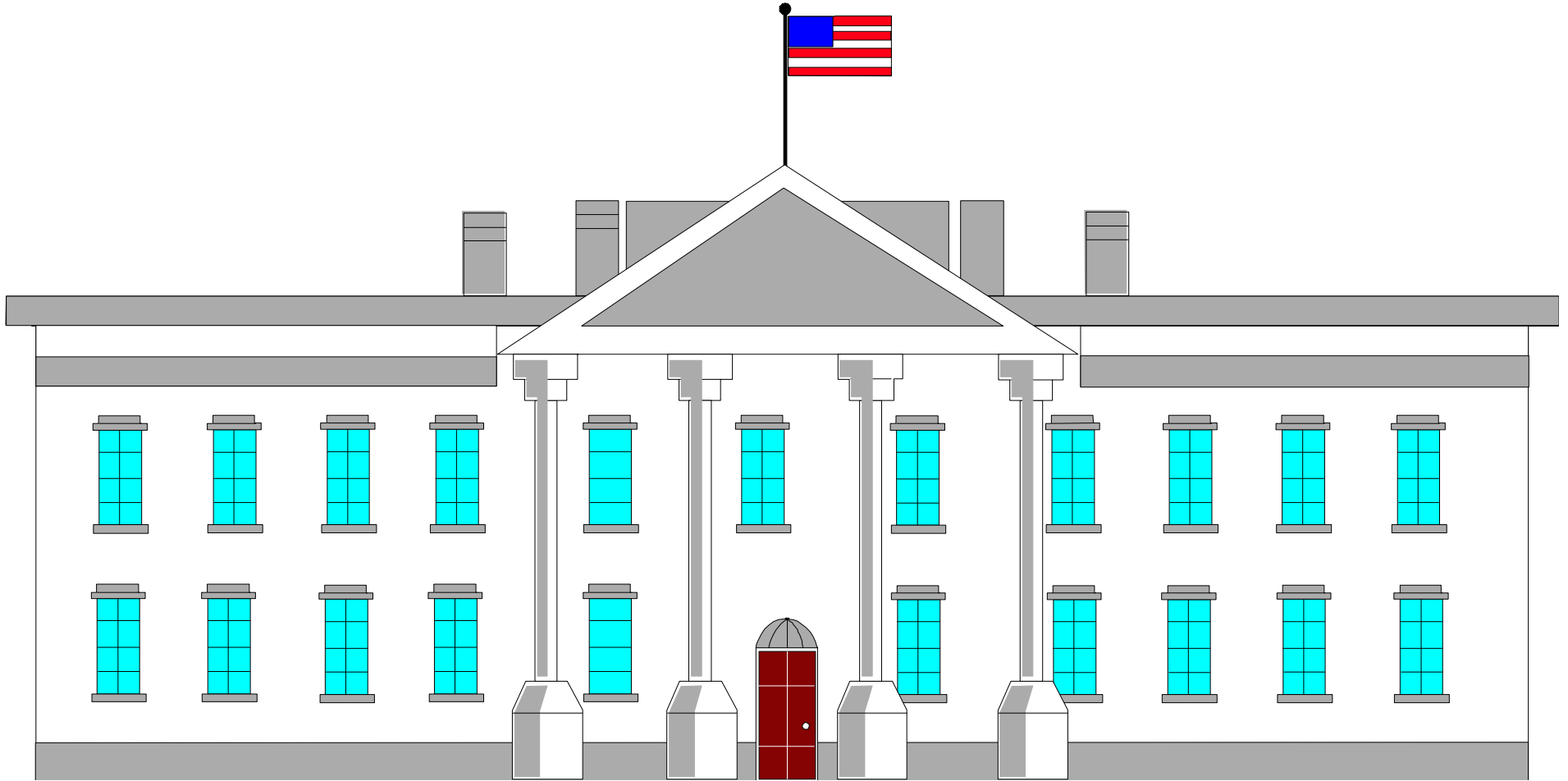
**Power to elect the
President if there is no
majority in the
Electoral College.**



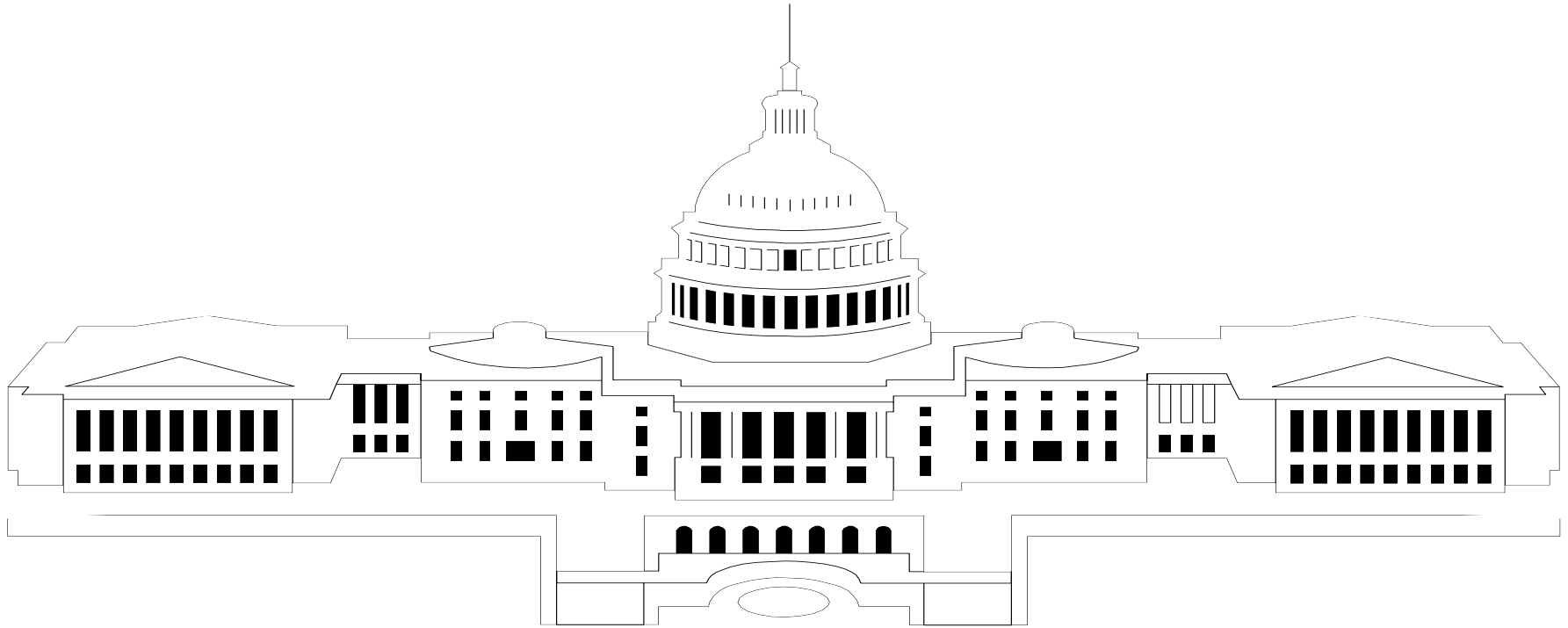
**Power to propose
constitutional
amendments**



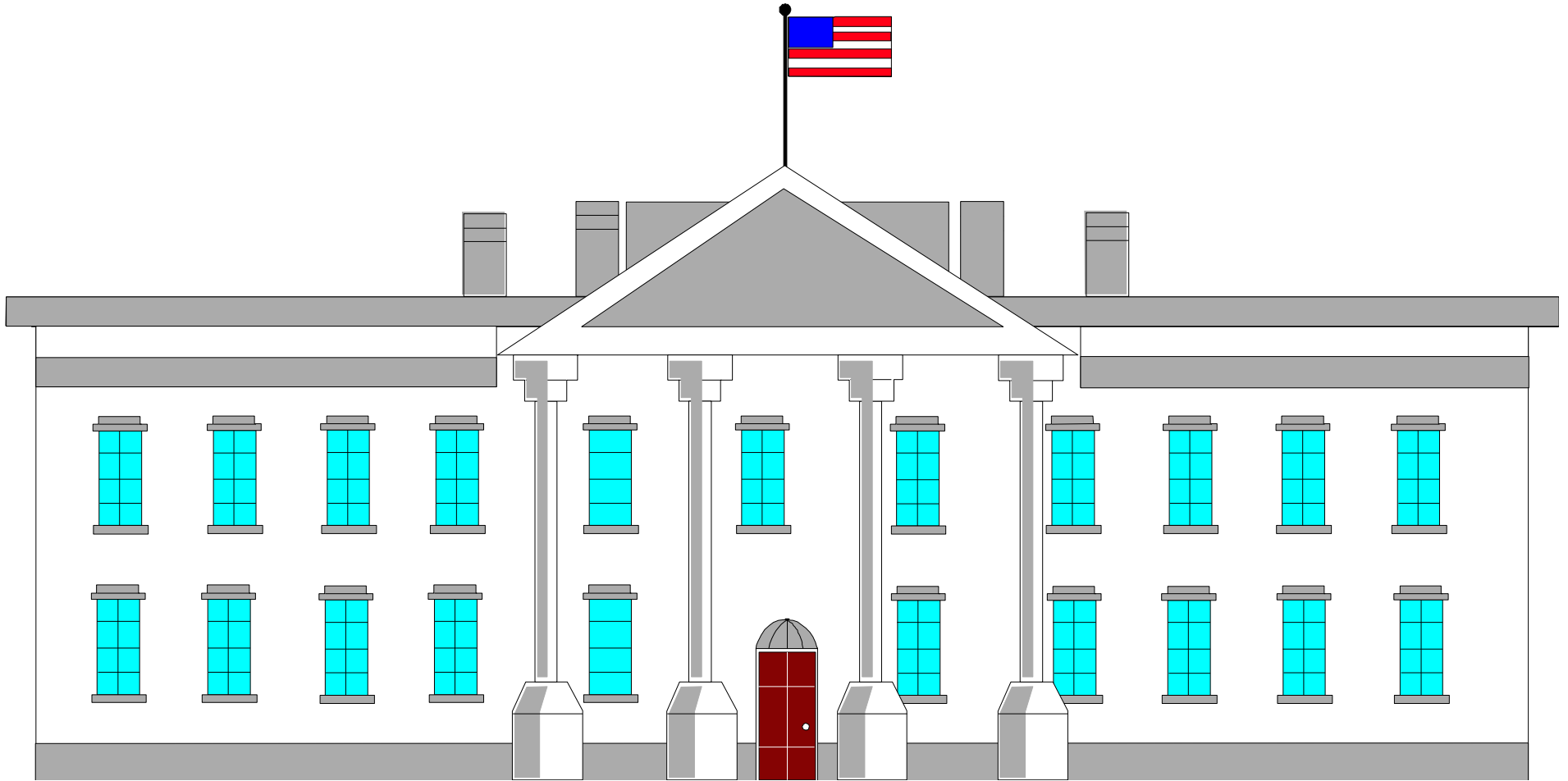








LEGISLATIVE

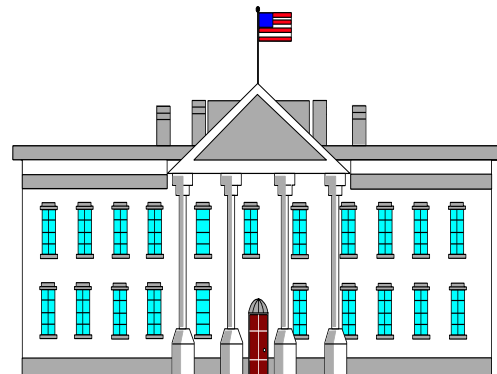
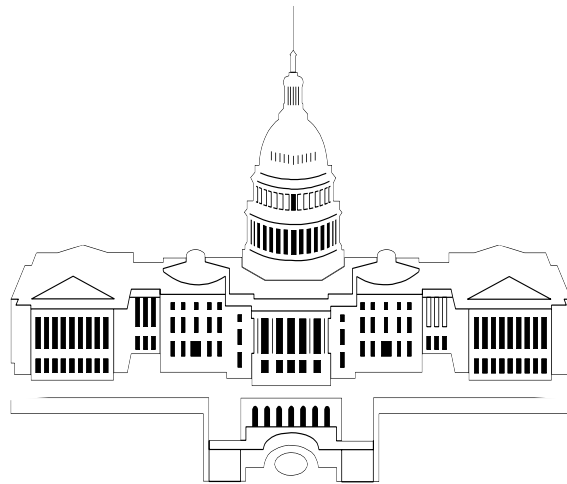


EXECUTIVE

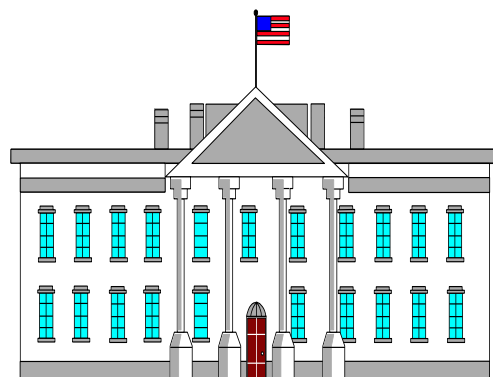
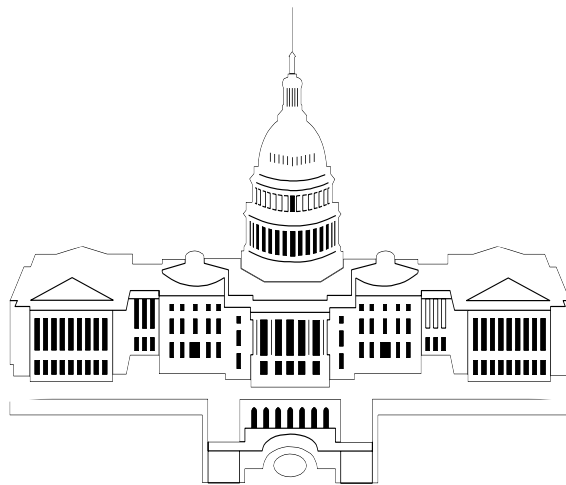


JUDICIAL

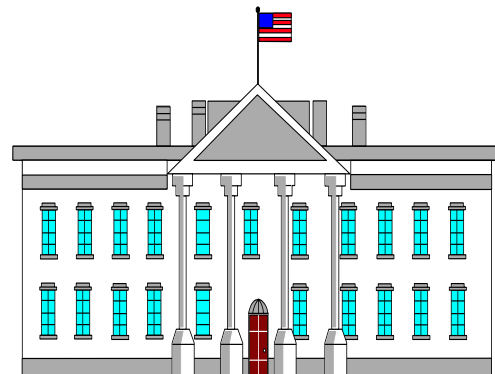
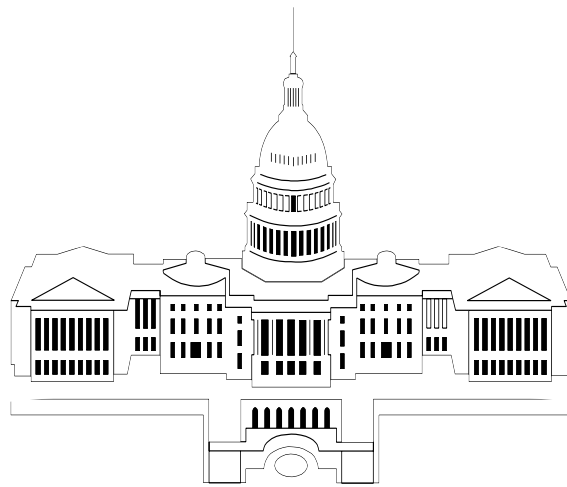
Power to impeach



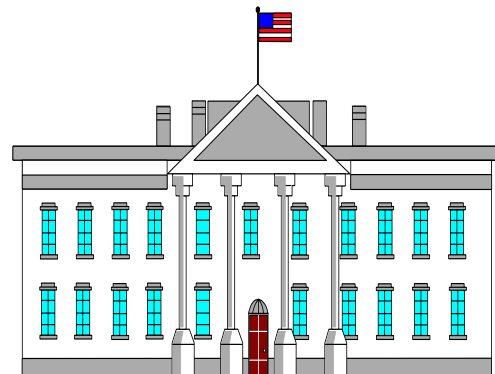
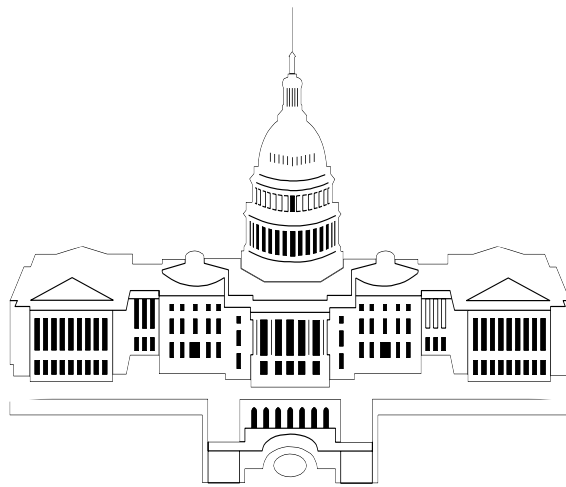
Power to declare war



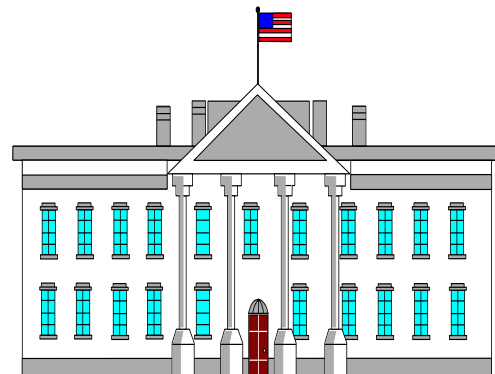
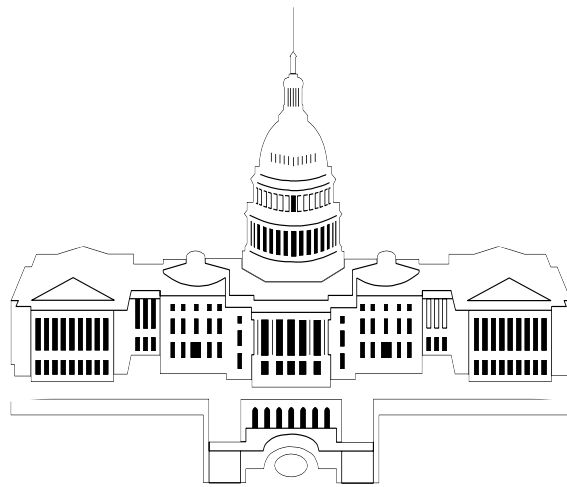
Power to approve appointments



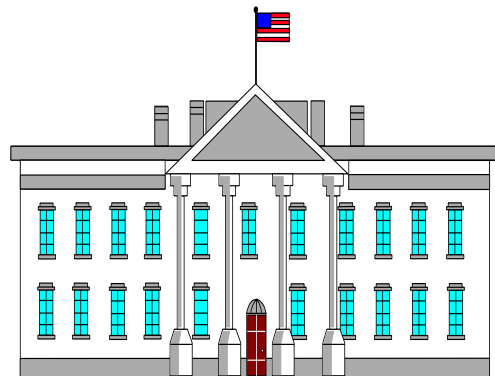
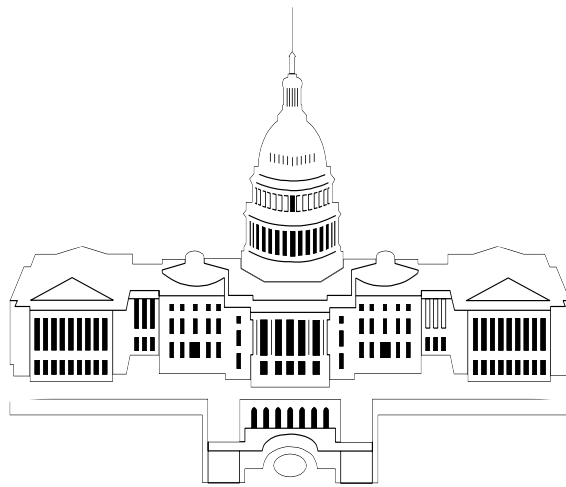
Power to ratify treaties



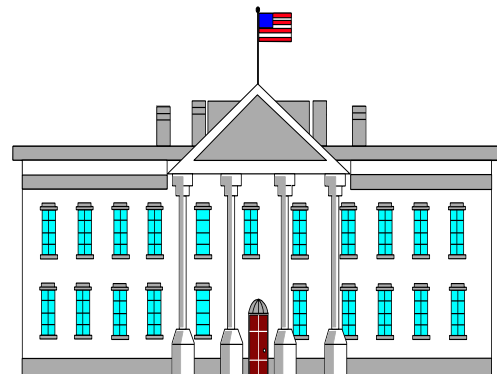
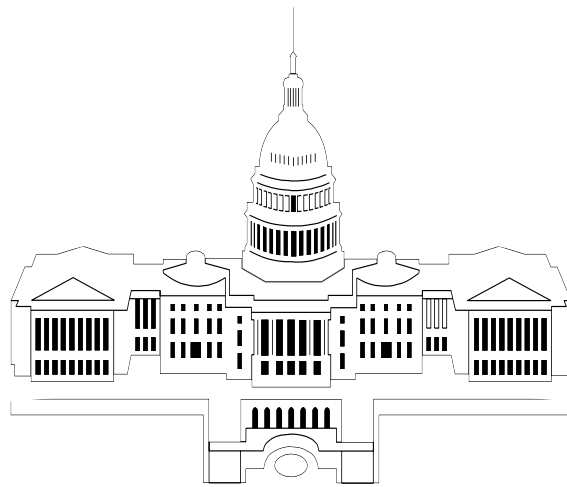
Power to recommend legislation



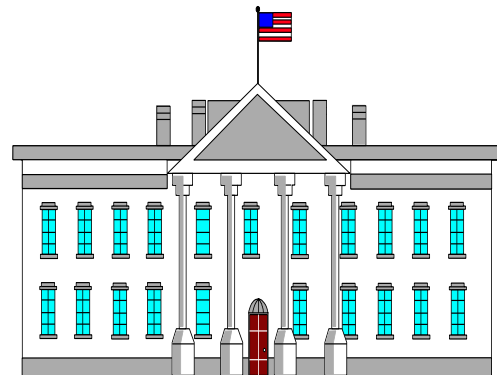
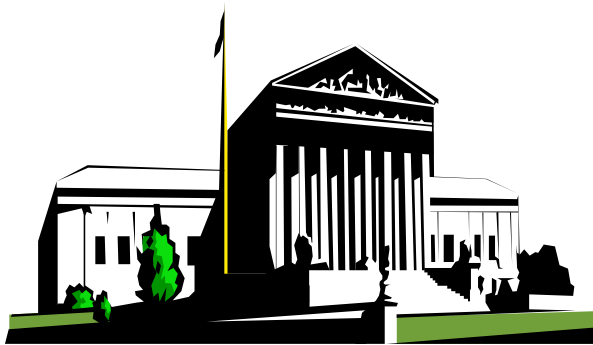
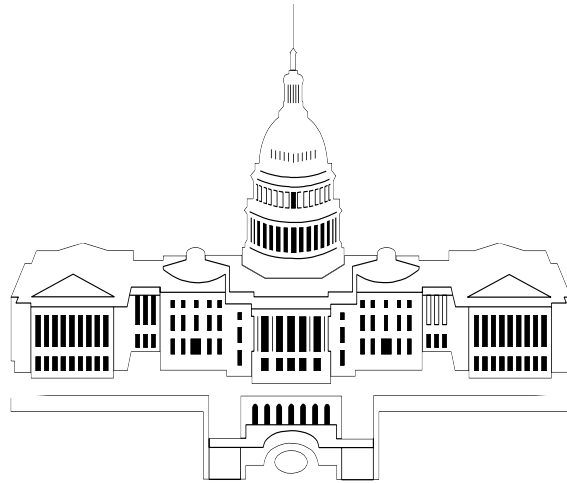
Power to make laws



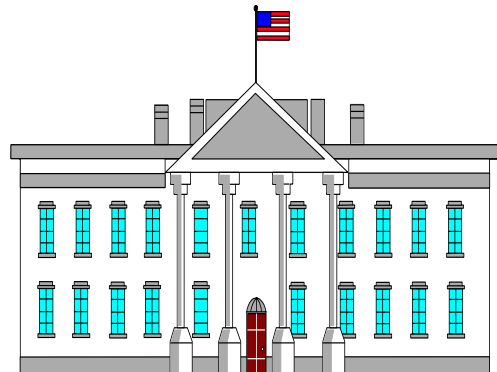
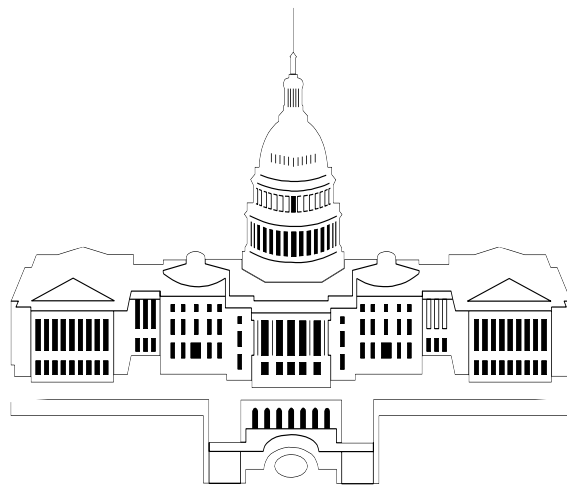
Power to increase income taxes



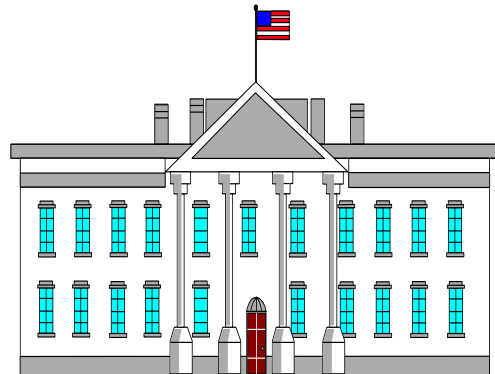
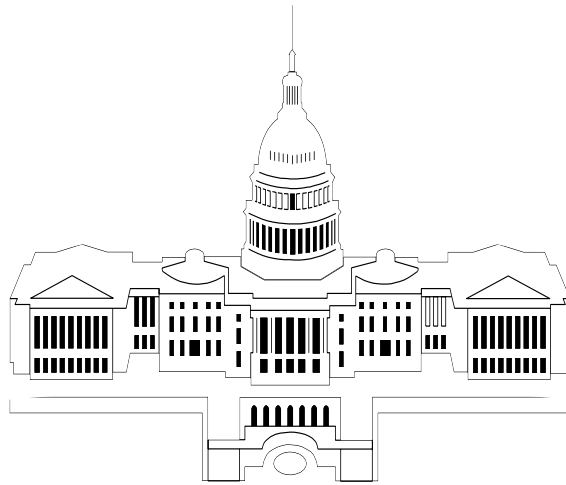
Power to enforce laws



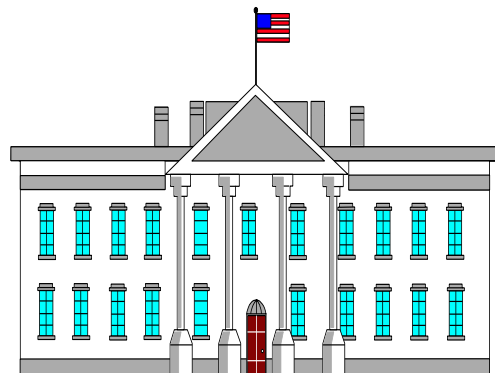
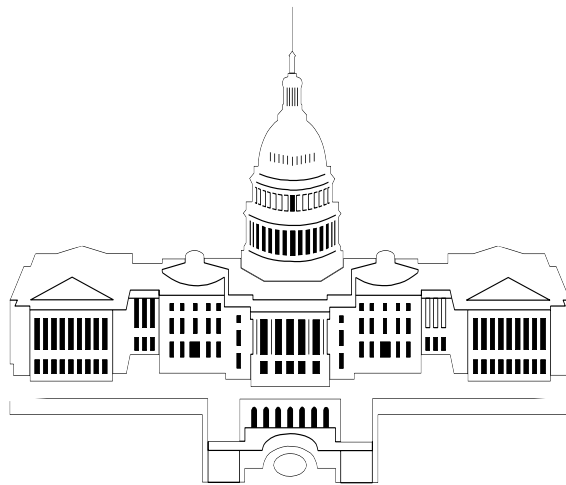
Power to commit troops into battle



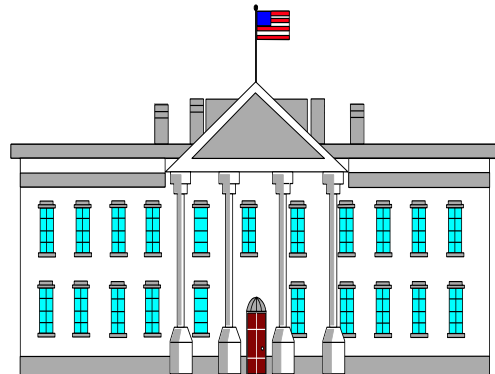
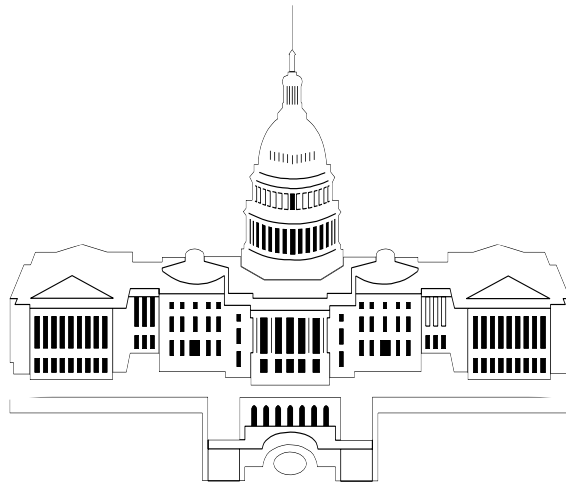
Power to make appointments



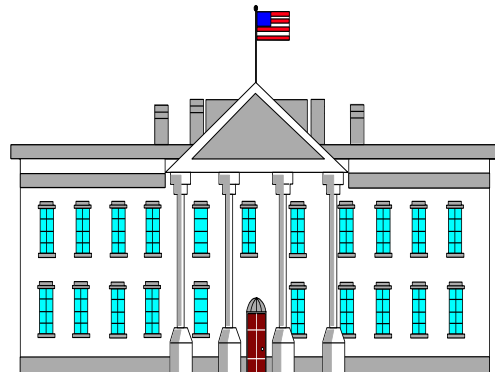
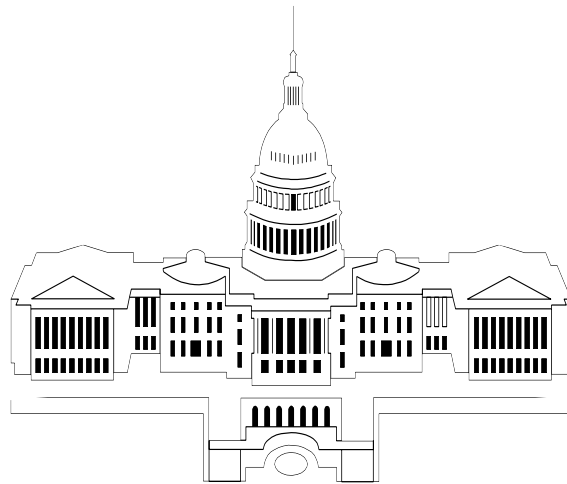
Power to enforce court decisions



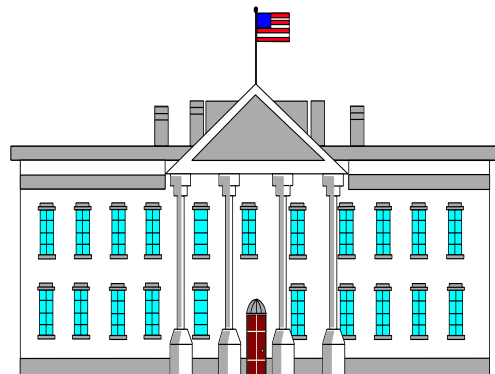
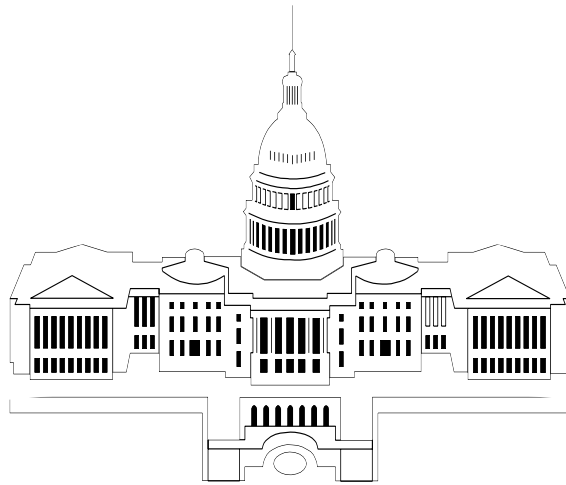
Power to veto bills



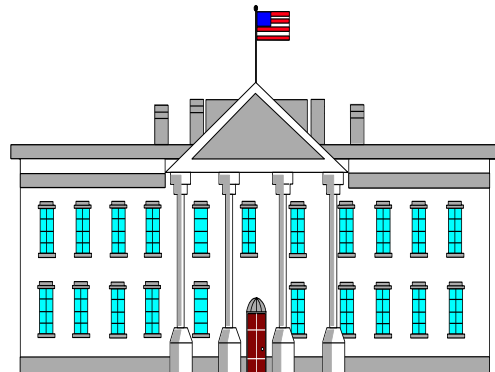
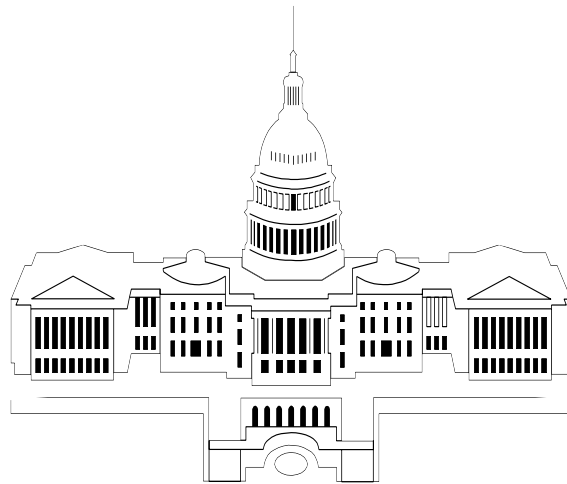
Power to call special sessions



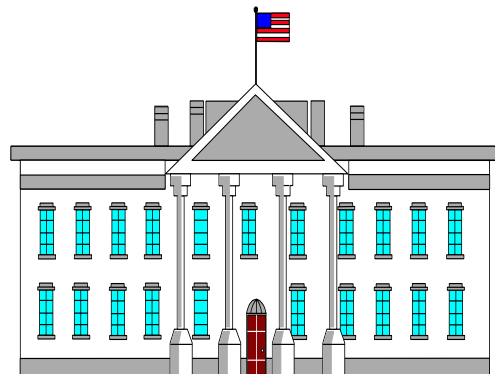
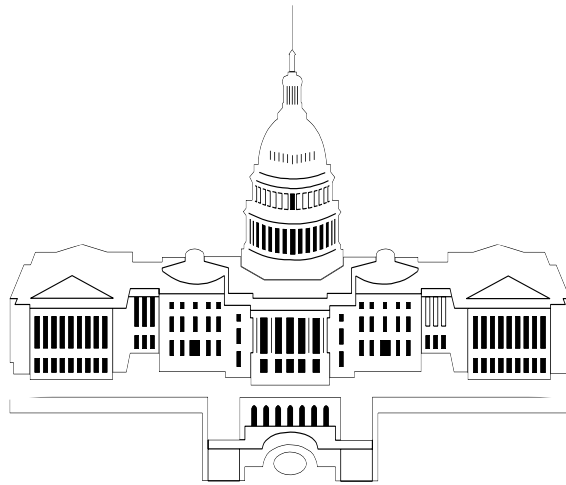
Power of judicial review



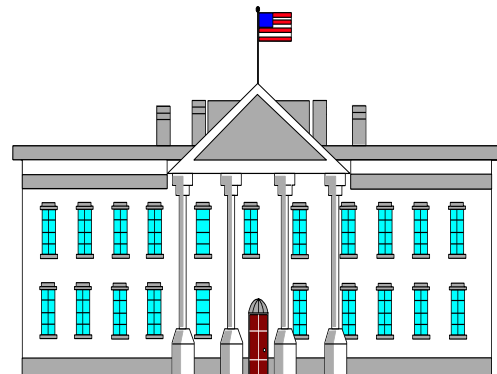
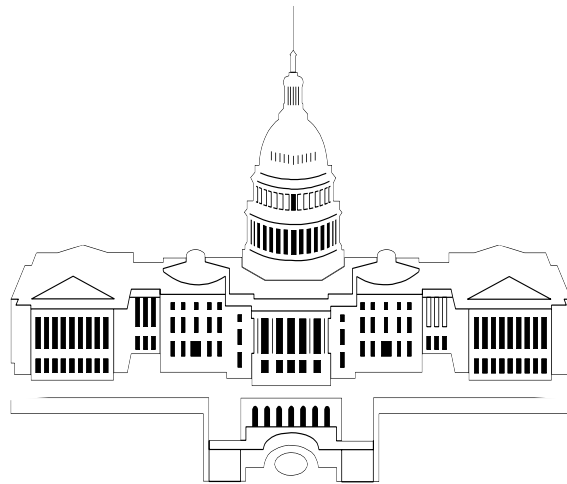
Power to settle disputes between two states



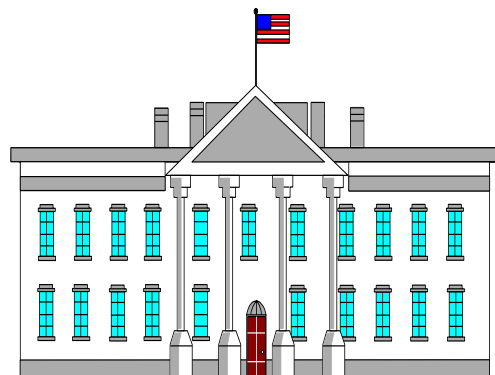
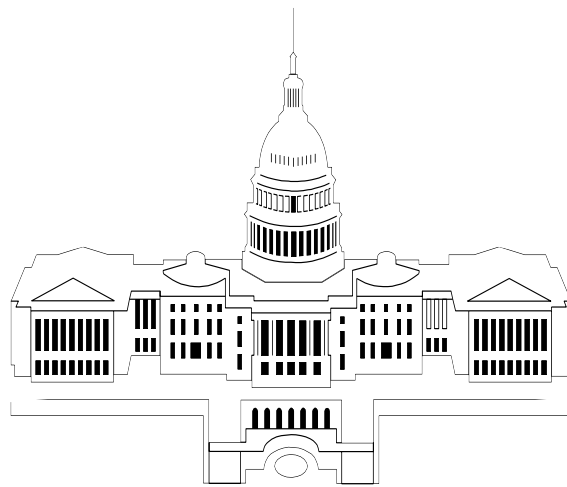
Power to make treaties



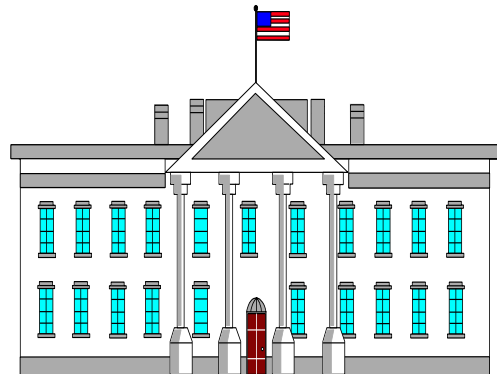
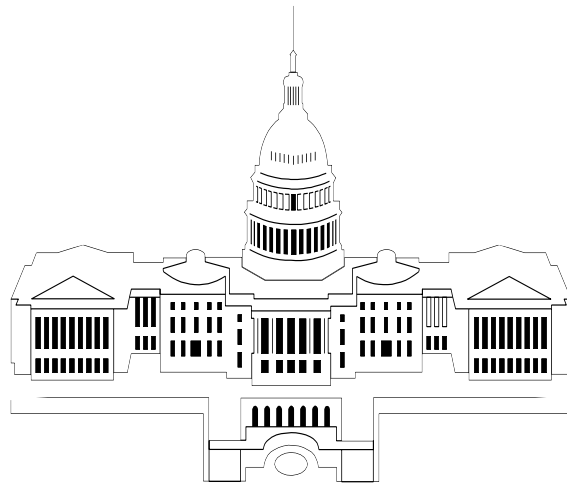
Power to create lower courts



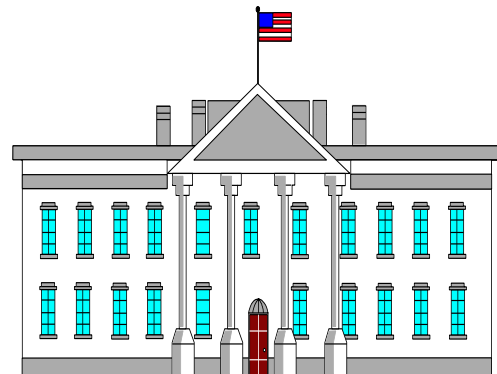
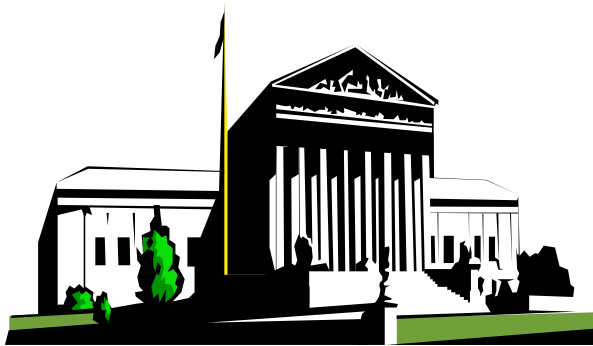
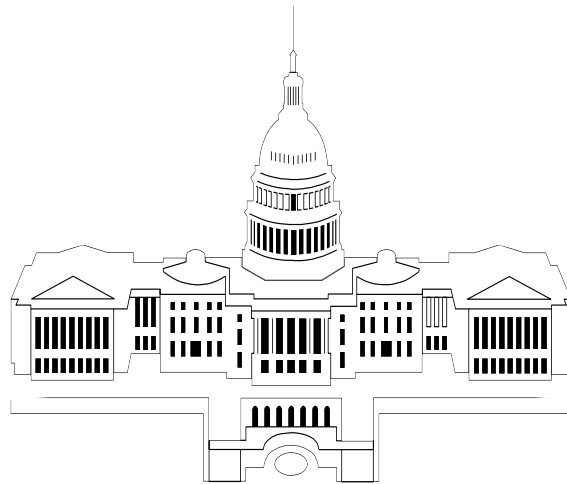
Power to pardon federal convicts



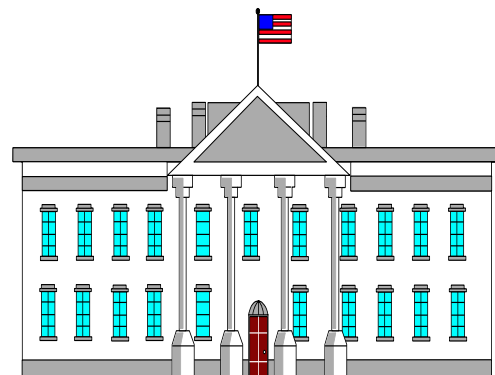
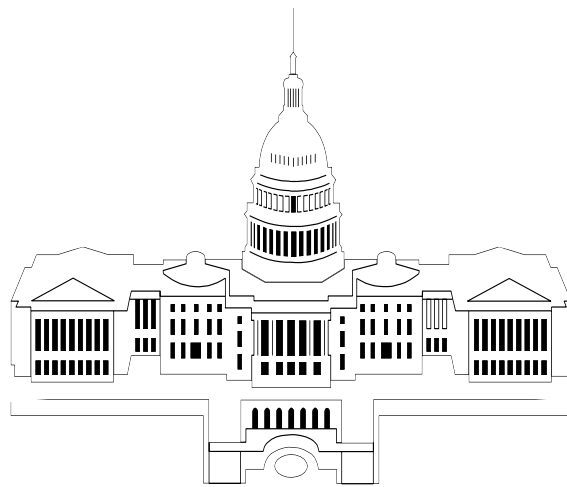
Power to regulate interstate commerce



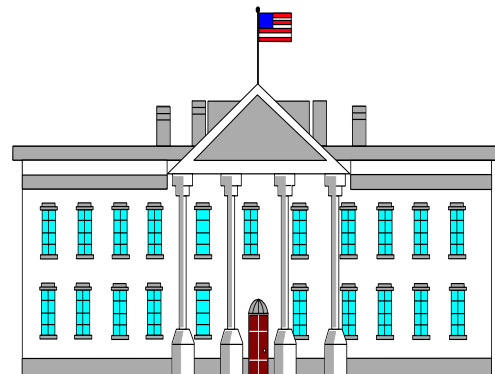
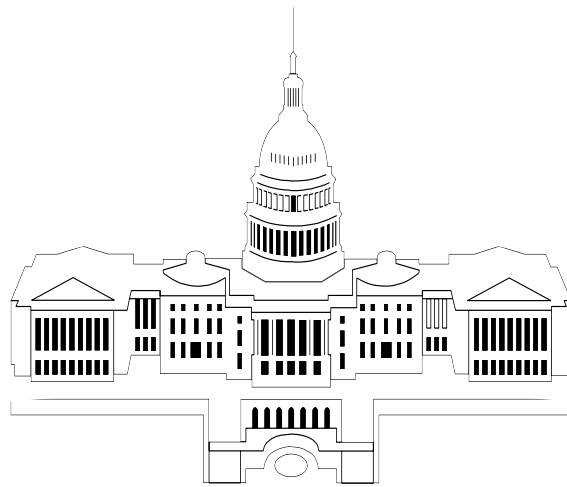
Power to interpret laws and settle disputes



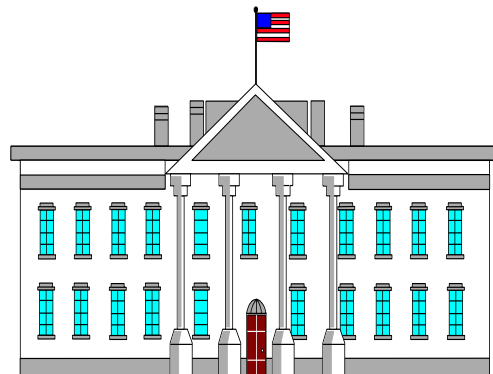
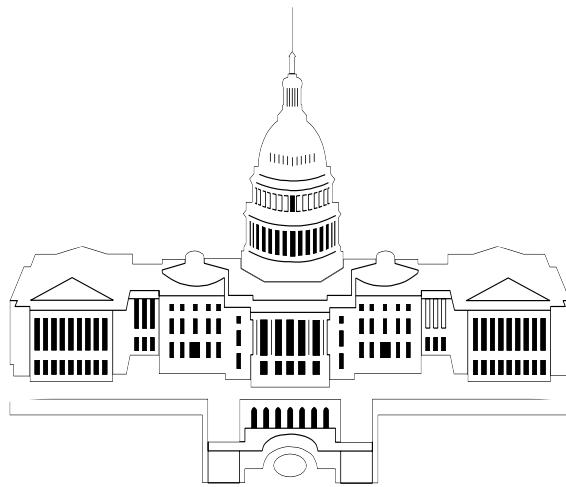
**Power to elect the
President if there
is no
majority in the
Electoral College.**



Power to propose constitutional amendments



Power to override vetoes



Power to appropriate money

