

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
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Chapter Thirteen

The Bureaucracy

Learning Outcomes

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- 13.1 Define the concept of the bureaucracy, and explain why such an organization is necessary and discuss the various theories of how bureaucracies act.
- 13.2 Compare the structure and function of executive departments, executive agencies, independent regulatory agencies, and government corporations.
- 13.3 Explain how individuals get positions in the federal bureaucracy, and discuss the history of attempts to reform that process.
- 13.4 Discuss some of the critiques of large bureaucracies and describe several types of bureaucratic reform.
- 13.5 Describe the tools and powers that bureaucratic agencies have to shape policies and regulations.
- 13.6 Analyze the relationship between Congress, its committees, interest groups and the bureaucracy.

The Nature of Bureaucracy

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- Public and Private Bureaucracies

- **Public**

- ✓ Multiple leaders
 - ✓ Serves citizens
 - ✓ Not organized for profit

- **Private**

- ✓ Single set of leaders
 - ✓ Organized to make profit

The Nature of Bureaucracy

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- Models of Bureaucracy
 - Weberian Model
 - Acquisitive Model
 - Monopolistic Model
- Bureaucracies Compared

The Nature of Bureaucracy

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LUKE SHARRETT/The New York Times/Redux

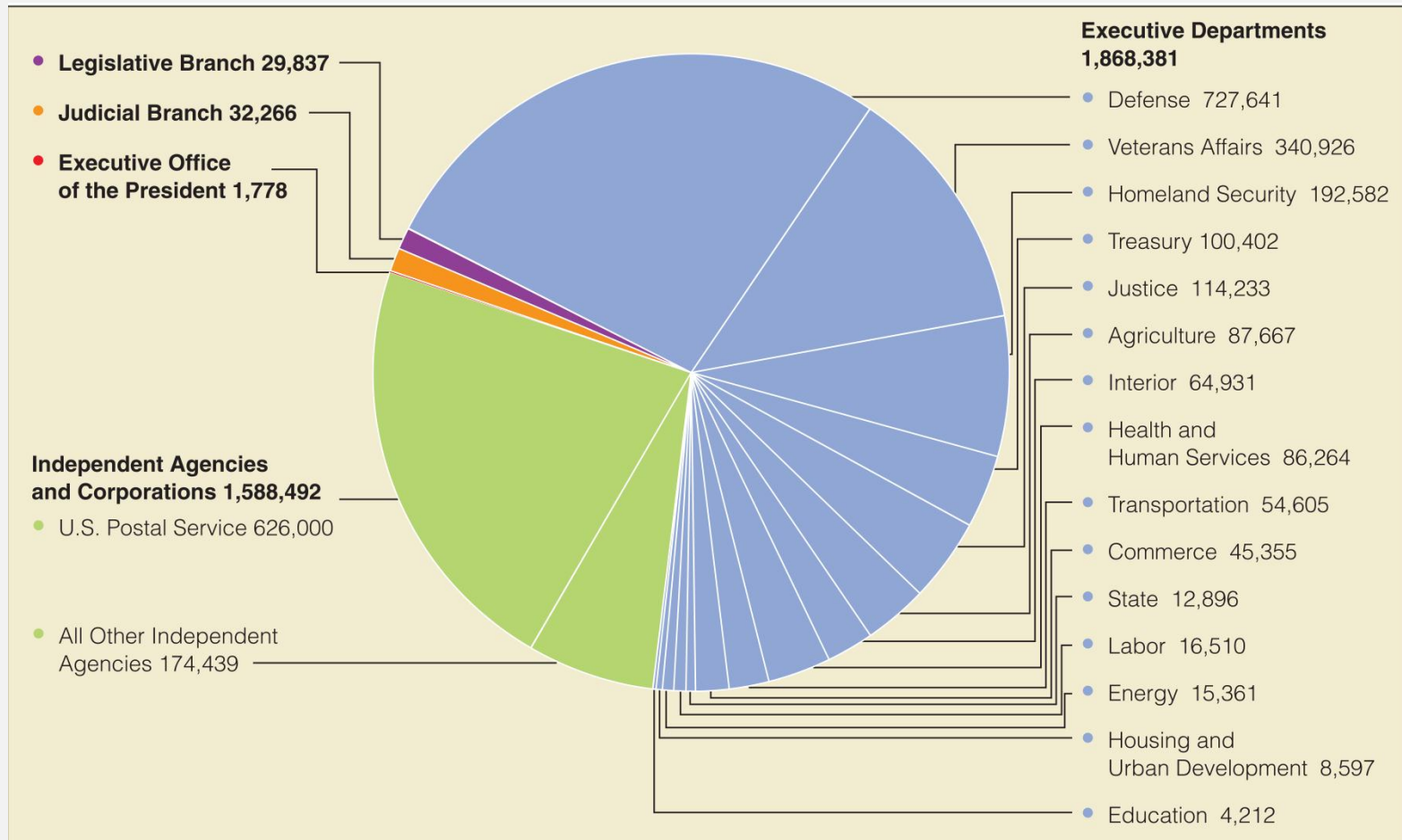


The Size of the Bureaucracy

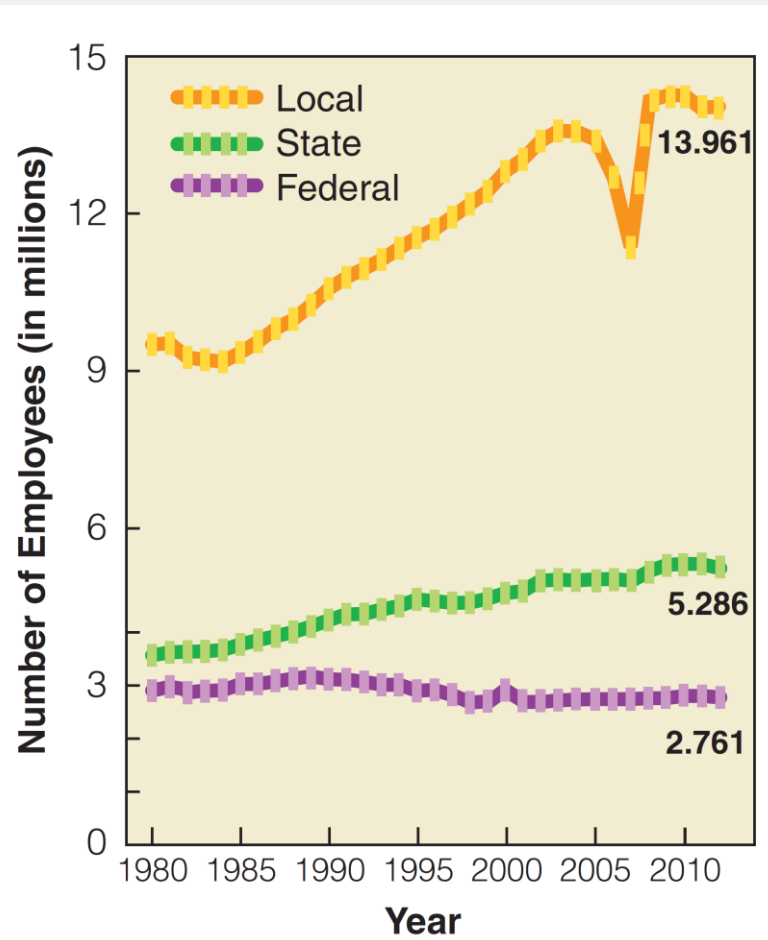
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- The Beginning Size
 - About 50 employees
- Current:
 - 2.7 million civilian federal employees
 - Millions of private subcontractors
 - Millions more state and local government employees

Federal Agencies and Their Respective Numbers of Civilian Employees



Government-Employment at the Federal, State, and Local Levels

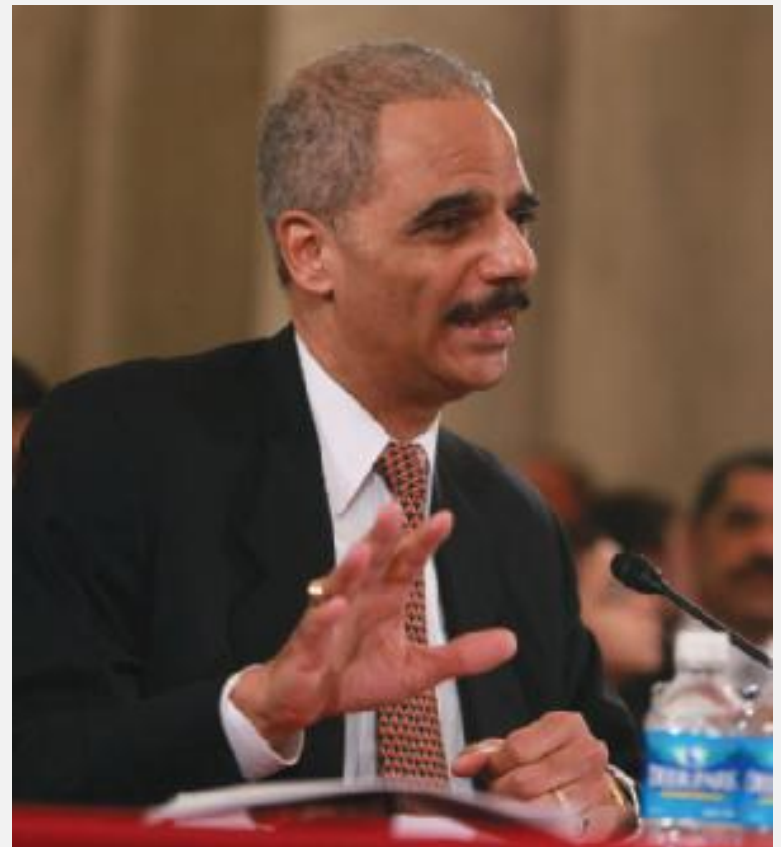


There are more local government employees than federal or state employees combined.

The Organization of the Federal Bureaucracy

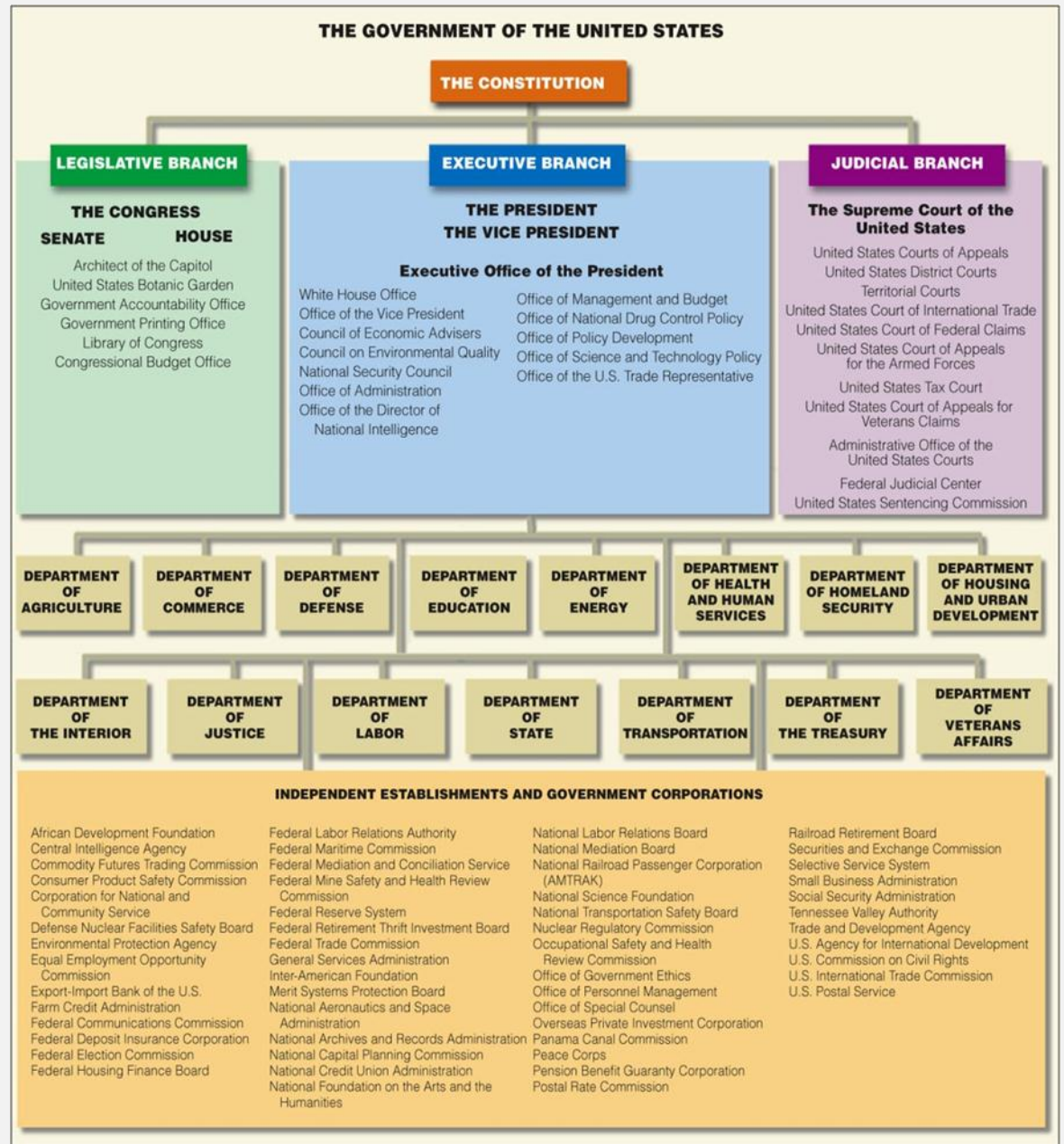
9

- Cabinet Departments
 - Fifteen departments (line organizations)
 - Report to president



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Organization Chart of the Federal Government



Independent Executive Agencies

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- Independent Regulatory Agencies
 - The Purpose and Nature of Regulatory Agencies
 - Agency Capture
 - Deregulation and Reregulation

Independent Executive Agencies

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- Government Corporations
 - U.S. Postal Service
 - AMTRAK

Challenges to the Bureaucracy

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- Reorganizing to Stop Terrorism
- Dealing with Natural Disasters



David McNew/Getty Images

Staffing the Bureaucracy

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- Political Appointees
 - The Aristocracy of the Federal Government
 - The Difficulty in Firing Civil Servants

Staffing the Bureaucracy

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- History of the Federal Civil Service
 - To the Victor Belong the Spoils
 - Spoils system
 - The Civil Service Reform Act of 1883
 - Merit system
 - The Civil Service Reform Act of 1978
 - Federal Employees and Political Campaigns

Modern Attempts at Bureaucratic Reform

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- Sunshine Laws before and after September 11
 - Government in the Sunshine Act (1976)
 - Information Disclosure
 - Curbs on Information Disclosure
- Sunset Laws

Modern Attempts at Bureaucratic Reform

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AP Images/Rick Bowmer



Much of the email and telephone data intercepted by the National Security Agency is to be stored in a \$1.6 billion facility in Bluffdale, Utah.

Modern Attempts at Bureaucratic Reform

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- Privatization
- Incentives for Efficiency and Productivity
 - Government Performance and Results Act
 - Bureaucracy Has Changed Little, Though
 - Saving Costs through E-Government

Modern Attempts at Bureaucratic Reform

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- Helping Out the Whistleblowers
 - Laws Protecting Whistleblowers
 - The Problem Continues

Bureaucrats as Politicians and Policymakers

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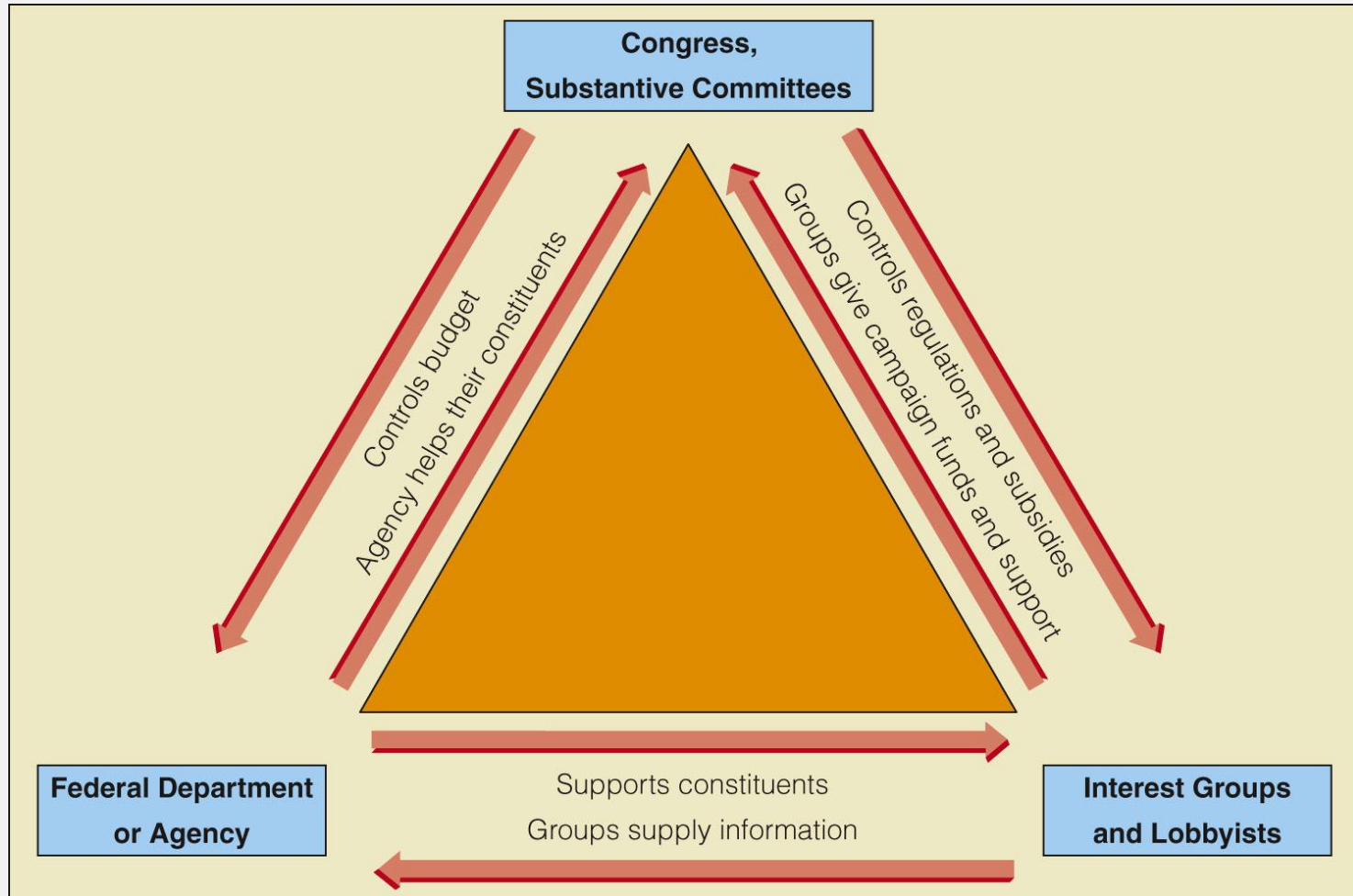
- The Rule-Making Environment
 - Waiting Periods and Court Challenges
 - Controversies
- Negotiated Rule Making

Bureaucrats as Politicians and Policymakers

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- Bureaucrats Are Policymakers
 - Iron Triangles
 - Issue Networks

Iron Triangle



Congressional Control of the Bureaucracy

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- Ways Congress Does Control the Bureaucracy
 - Enabling legislation
 - Power of the purse
 - Investigations and hearings
 - Oversight

Congressional Control of the Bureaucracy

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- Reasons Why Congress Cannot Easily Oversee the Bureaucracy
 - “Police patrol”
 - “Fire alarm”

Veteran Affairs and PTSD Care

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Click picture to view video



Video Discussion Questions

1. Who is responsible for widespread problems within the Veteran's Administration system?
2. Should medical care for veterans be turned over to private enterprise? Why might this cause further delays?
3. Were deficiencies in the VA discovered by the "police patrol" or the "fire alarm" approach? What role did whistleblowers play?