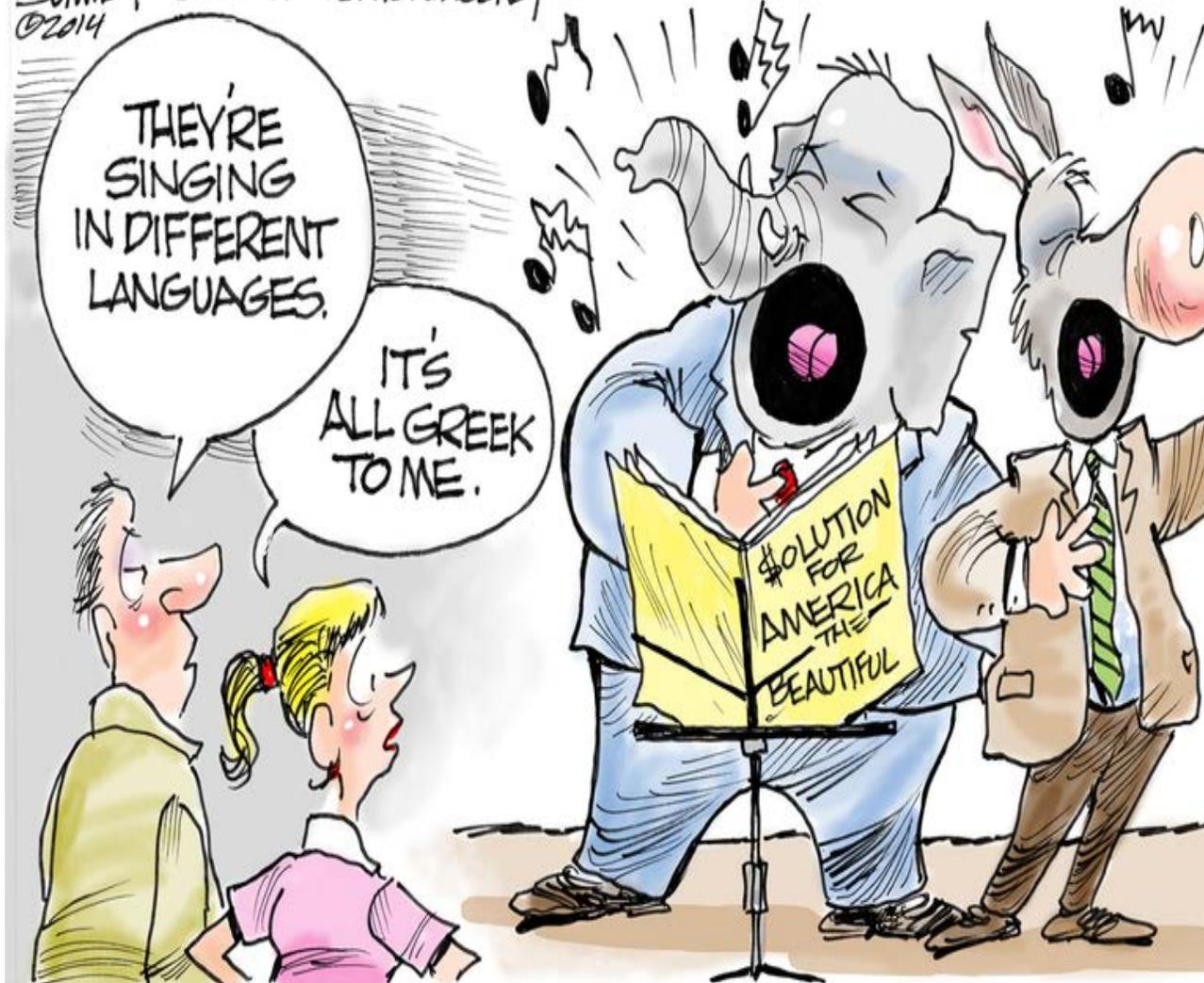


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## UNIT IV: Policymaking

*Metea Valley High School Government*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Robert's Rules of Order

*Robert's Rules of Order provides common rules and procedures for deliberation and debate in order to place everyone on the same page and using the same language. By using the following procedure for debates everyone can respectfully share their opinions. When speaking, do not use personal names. Address your peers by a formal title, "colleague" or "representative."*

1. The Committee Meeting will now come to order	Committee Chair
2. Will the clerk read the (first) (next) bill on the docket (Committee Chair)	Committee Chair
3. Bill number & brief title is read	Clerk
4. Is the author of the bill present?	Clerk
5. <u>(author says yes)</u>	Bill Author
6. The author is entitled to open comments.	Committee Chair
7. Author will explain their bill.	Bill Author
8. I move this bill do pass.	Bill Author
9. The floor is now open for general debate	Committee Chair
10. The Chair will recognize representatives as they raise their hand.	Committee Chair
11. During debate: 12. Will the author (or Representative) yield to a question? 13. Will the author (or Representative) yield to a series of questions?(Limit to 3) 14. Will the author yield to a comment?	Members of Committee
15. In ending debate a committee member can state: <u>I move the previous question</u> – (This ends debate on the bill.)	Members of Committee
16. The committee/house will vote on the previous question which ENDS debate.	Committee Chair
17. All those in favor raise your hand and say "I"	Members of Committee
18. All those opposed raise your hand and say "NAY"	Members of Committee
19. After the previous question is moved the author is now entitled to closing comments.	Committee Chair
20. Bill author gives their closing statement.	Bill Author
21. We will now vote on the bill.	Committee Chair
22. All those in favor raise your hand and say "I."	Committee Chair
23. All those opposed raise your hand and say "NAY."	Committee Chair
24. State which side has won: "This bill passes." or "This bill fails." (**If the chair is in doubt, a roll call vote will be taken to count the votes.) Call the next bill to the floor: "Will the clerk read the next bill on the docket.."	Committee Chair

**Unit IV: Policymaking**  
**Essential Unit Questions:**

1. Describe and analyze how bills become laws.
2. Analyze the various roadblocks bills have to overcome in order to become laws.
3. Identify and discuss the various influences on lawmaking.
4. Analyze how the institution of Congress influences public policy.
5. Describe how the lawmaking process affects public policy and your life.
6. Describe the committee system and structure in Congress.
7. Identify why Congress has the “Power of the Purse.”
8. Identify and describe the constitutional powers of the President and executive branch.
9. Analyze how the informal powers of the president have expanded overtime.
10. Discuss the importance of the federal bureaucracy and the President’s cabinet.



Essential Unit Terms	I can define it and/or give an example of....	I’ve seen it but do not know the exact definition...	I have no idea what this term means...	Definitions and/or notes for the test:
Filibuster				
Cloture				
Veto				

Essential Unit Terms	I can define it and/or give an example of...	I've seen it but do not know the exact definition...	I have no idea what this term means...	Definitions and/or notes for the test:
Standing Committee				
Rules Committee				
Conference Committee				
Lobbying/ Lobbyists				
Interest Groups				
Federal Budget				
Deficit				
Debt				

Essential Unit Terms	I can define it and/or give an example of...	I've seen it but do not know the exact definition...	I have no idea what this term means...	Definitions and/or notes for the test:
Chief Executive				
Chief Legislator				
Commander-in-Chief				
Chief Citizen				
Imperial presidency				
Foreign policy				
Domestic policy				
Cabinet				
Appointments				

Chief of Staff				
Secretary of State				
Secretary of Defense				

# Organizing Obama's Inbox



Who do you think the President should respond to first? What would be your TOP 5 priorities?



RANK	FROM	Explain your top 5 priorities.
	Charles Michel, the current Prime Minister of Belgium	
	Ukraine's acting President Oleksandr Turchynov	
	President of the EU, Herman Van Rompuy	
	Michelle Obama	
	Director of the Office of Budget and Management	
	John O. Brennan, CIA	
	Paul Ryan, Speaker of the House	
	Chancellor of Germany, Angela Merkel	
	Al Gore, Alliance for Climate Protection	
	Governor of New Jersey, Chris Christie	
	Mayor Rahm Emanuel	
	Border Control, Naco, AZ	
	Hillary Clinton, candidate for President	
	John Kerry, Secretary of State	
	President of Mexico, Pena Nieto	
	US Ambassador to China	
	Joe Biden, Vice President	
	America's Health Insurance Plans (lobbyist)	
	President of AARP (American Assoc. of Retired Persons)	
	Senator Orin Hatch, Chairmen of the Senate Judiciary Committee	
	President Karzi of Afghanistan	

# Hats of the President

## Chief Citizen

- Role Model
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Party Chief

- Head of his/her  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Chief of State

- \_\_\_\_\_ or head of our  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ roles

## Chief Legislator

- \_\_\_\_\_

## Commander in Chief

- \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Chief Administrator

- \_\_\_\_\_ advisors
- \_\_\_\_\_ the White House

## Chief Diplomat

- \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ (agreements with other countries)
- " \_\_\_\_\_ " nations

## Chief Executive

- \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Economic Chief

- \_\_\_\_\_



***The President's Salary:***

Since 1969 it was \$200,000 per year.

In 2001 a raise was given. The salary is now \$\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_.

***Presidential Succession:***

1. \_\_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_ Amendment)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (rest of order determined by Congress)
3. President \_\_\_\_\_ of the Senate
4. Secretary of \_\_\_\_\_
5. Secretary of the \_\_\_\_\_
6. Secretary of \_\_\_\_\_
7. Attorney General
8. Secretary of the Interior
9. Secretary of Agriculture
10. Secretary of Commerce
11. Secretary of Labor
12. Secretary of Health and Human Services
13. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
14. Secretary of Transportation
15. Secretary of Energy
16. Secretary of Education
17. Secretary of Veterans Affairs
18. Secretary of Homeland Security



# Powers of the National Government & The System of Checks and Balances

<b>Powers of Congress</b>	<b>Powers of the President</b>

1. Now, **highlight** the powers that represent checks on the powers of the other branches.
2. Which check do you think is the most important check to have in government? Why do you think that particular check is most important? Explain your answer.

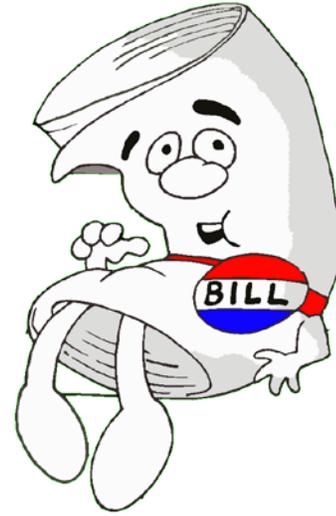
# How a Bill Becomes a Law

## Step I:

Starts as \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by a Congressman/Senator

(\_\_\_\_\_ *must start in the House*)



## Step II.

The Bill is sent to the appropriate House or Senate \_\_\_\_\_.

## Step III.

Sent to a \_\_\_\_\_ *where hearings are held and the bill is "marked up"*

\_\_\_\_\_ *(bills unlikely to pass on their own) are sometimes added.*

## Step IV.

Back to the \_\_\_\_\_ committee

If the bill is not reported on favorably it " \_\_\_\_\_ in committee"

*Only \_\_\_\_\_ of bills make it out of Committee! (WOW!)*

## Step V:

Rules Committee ( \_\_\_\_\_ only) (\*\*VERY IMPORTANT!)

The Rules Committee determines the bills schedule and rules for debate.

## Step VI:

**Floor Action = \_\_\_\_\_**

Debate is restricted in the House and " \_\_\_\_\_" in the Senate.

\_\_\_\_\_ : unlimited debate to prevent a bill from passing (*only in the Senate*) (*Yes, only in the Senate*)

\_\_\_\_\_ : *60 senators can vote to stop the filibuster*

**Step VII.**

VOTE: Bills need a \_\_\_\_\_ of both houses

Sent to the OTHER chamber/house of Congress

**Step VIII.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Committee**

*If a bill passes in one house but it is not the same as the bill passed in the other house the differences must be worked out.*

**Step IX.**

Sent to the \_\_\_\_\_

The President's choices:

\_\_\_\_\_ = Bill becomes a law

\_\_\_\_\_ = Refuse to sign it (\_\_\_\_\_ can override)

*If the President does nothing, it becomes law in 10 days.*

*(If Congress adjourns, the bill dies = \_\_\_\_\_.)*

**\*\*The Line-item veto was declared unconstitutional!**

## In funding flap, Obama vetoes \$612B defense bill

By Josh Lederman Associated Press – Chicago Tribune 10/22/15

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama vetoed a sweeping \$612 billion defense policy bill Thursday in a rebuke to congressional Republicans, and insisted they send him a better version that doesn't tie his hands on some of his top priorities. In an unusual Oval Office ceremony, Obama praised the bill for ensuring the military stays funded and making improvements on armed forces retirement and cybersecurity. Yet he pointedly accused Republicans of resorting to "gimmicks" and prohibiting other changes needed to address security threats. "Unfortunately, it falls woefully short," Obama said. "I'm going to be sending it back to Congress, and my message to them is very simple: Let's do this right."



In no mood to negotiate, Republicans vowed to override him. The rare presidential veto marked the latest wrinkle in the ongoing fight between Obama and Republicans who control Congress over whether to increase federal spending — and how.

Four years after Congress passed and Obama signed into law strict, across-the-board spending limits, both parties are eager to bust through the caps for defense spending. But Obama has insisted that spending on domestic programs be raised at the same time, setting off a budget clash with Republicans that shows no signs of a quick resolution.

To sidestep the budget caps, known in Washington as sequestration, lawmakers added an extra \$38.3 billion to a separate account for wartime operations that is immune to the spending limits. The White House has dismissed that approach, arguing it fails to deal with the broader problem or provide long-term budget certainty for the Pentagon.

Obama also rejects the bill as written due to provisions making it harder for him to transfer suspected terror detainees out of the military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, a key campaign promise that Obama is hard-pressed to fulfill before his presidency ends. The White House has also expressed concerns over provisions preventing military base closures and funding equipment beyond what the military says it needs.

Republicans erupted in near-universal criticism. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., the Senate Armed Services Committee chairman, called the veto "misguided, cynical and downright dangerous." And more than a dozen House and Senate Republicans, including Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, joined in accusing Obama of putting politics ahead of the troops.

"Congress should not allow this veto to stand," said House Speaker John Boehner. Yet the White House and House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi of California insisted Democrats had the votes to ensure Obama's veto stays in place. Barring a veto override, Congress will have to revise the bill or try to settle the larger budget dispute. Obama has vetoed only a handful of bills before, generally in private. In an effort to call attention to his concerns, the White House invited reporters and photographers to witness him vetoing the bill.

## “Budget Deficit” vs. “National Debt”

Suppose you want to spend more money this month than your income. This situation is called a "budget deficit". So you borrow (i.e.; use your credit card). The amount you borrowed (and now owe) is called your debt. You have to pay interest on your debt. If next month you don't have enough money to cover your spending (another deficit), you must borrow some more, and you'll still have to pay the interest on the loan. If you have a deficit every month, you keep borrowing and your debt grows. Soon the interest payment on your loan is bigger than any other item in your budget. Eventually, all you can do is pay the interest payment, and you don't have any money left over for anything else. This situation is known as bankruptcy.

Each year since 1969, Congress has spent more money than its income. The Treasury Department has to borrow money to meet Congress's appropriations. The total borrowed is close to \$19 Trillion and growing. Even when government officials claim to have a surplus, they still spend more than they get in. We pay interest on that huge debt.

### The National Debt is:

The Outstanding Public Debt as of **April, 2016** is:

**\$19,403,523,456,678**

The estimated population of the United States is **320,067,641**  
so each citizen's share of this debt is approximately **\$57,223**.

# The Budget Process

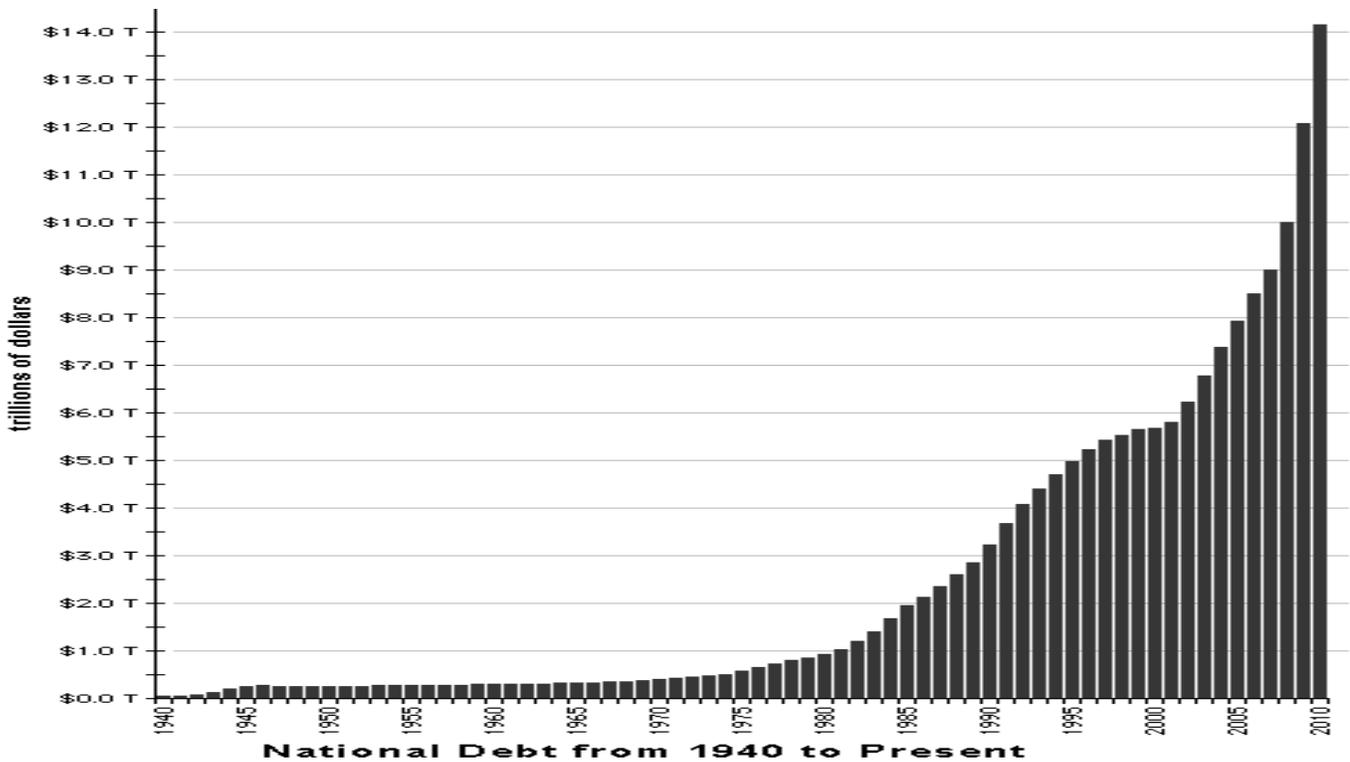
The President's Budget is sent to Congress in early February. This proposal is his/her plan for the next fiscal year, beginning October 1. This plan, however, only becomes official after Congress passes, and the President signs spending bills and legislation creating new taxes and **entitlements**.

After receiving the President's budget, Congress examines it in detail. Scores of committees and subcommittees hold hearings on proposals under their jurisdiction. The House and Senate Armed Services Committees, for instance, would hold hearings on the President's defense plan. If the President's plan contains proposals that affect Federal revenues, the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance committees would hold hearings. The President, the Budget Director, the Cabinet, and others work with Congress as it accepts some proposals, rejects others, and changes still others.

Each year Congress must pass and the President must sign 13 **appropriation bills** that include all of the discretionary spending. The President and Congress do not have to enact new laws governing entitlements or taxes. If they do not, the Government will pay the benefits for Social Security and other programs and collect the taxes required by laws in place.

## Appropriation bill

A (proposed) formal action by a legislative assembly (such as the U.S. Congress or a state legislature) that specifies exact amounts of the government's money that the Treasury may legally pay out (through new hiring, contracts for purchases, findings of individuals' eligibility for income transfer payments, etc.) for each of a list of particular pre-authorized programs carried out by governmental agencies over a specific period of time (normally one year).



Source: U.S. National Debt Clock  
[http://www.brilliq.com/debt\\_clock/](http://www.brilliq.com/debt_clock/)

## Why You Should Be Concerned:

On a year-by-year basis, a budget deficit is not really a concern. The U.S. government is like the world's best customer – it buys a lot, and since its economy has been one of the world's strongest, it has always paid the debt back. However, as the debt continues to increase, eventually someone, somewhere, will get antsy and start to demand their money back. At this point, it could cause a panic, which would be devastating for the global economy...not to mention your finances.

### Key Budget Facts:

The Government spends most of your money on a few major programs. In 2010 for instance:

**Social Security – 20% ( \$708 billion)**

**Defense – 20% (\$715 billion)**

**Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP – 21% (\$753 billion)**

**Interest on National Debt – 6% (\$209 billion)**

The Government collects most of its revenues from a few main sources (2009):

**Individual Income Taxes – 43.5% (\$915.3 billion)**

**Social Security Receipts – 42.3% (\$890.9 billion)**

**Corporate Income Taxes – 6.6% (\$138.2 billion)**

Because all of the revenues do not cover the costs of all spending, the Government borrows money to finance this deficit. The total it has borrowed over the years, but not repaid, is the national debt.

### Types of Spending:

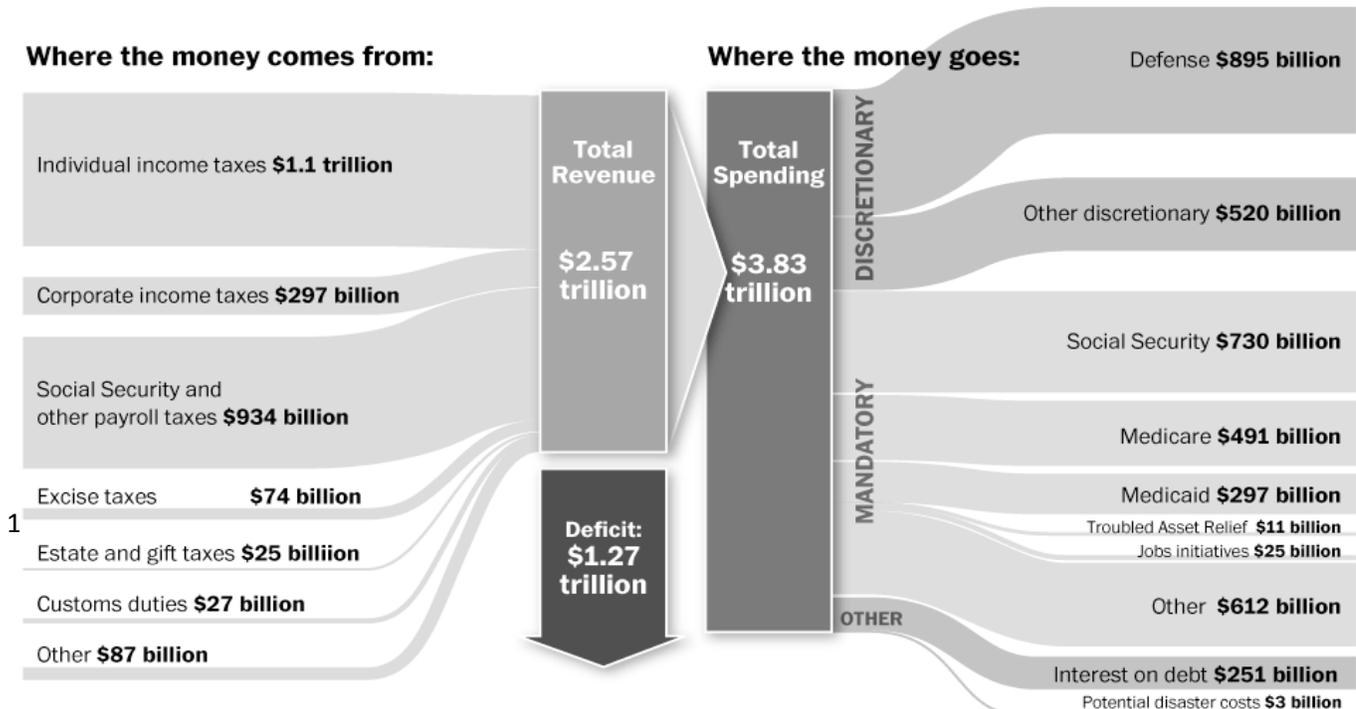
The Federal Budget can be divided into two types of spending according to how Congress appropriates the money: *discretionary* and *mandatory*.

#### Discretionary - 38% of all Federal Spending

This is the money the President and Congress must decide to spend each year. It includes money for such programs as the FBI and the Coast Guard, housing and education, space exploration and highway construction, and defense and foreign aid.

#### Mandatory - 62% of all Federal Spending

This is the money that the Federal Government appends automatically - unless the President and Congress change the laws that govern it. It includes entitlements - such as Social Security, Medicare, and Food Stamps - through which individuals receive benefits because they meet some criteria of eligibility (e.g. age, income). Unlike discretionary spending, the Congress does not decide each year to increase or decrease the Food Stamp budget; instead, it periodically reviews the eligibility rules and may change them in order to exclude or include more people. This is embodied in the recent overhaul of our nation's health care system. It also includes interest on the national debt, which the Government pays to individuals and institutions that buy saving bonds and other US securities. Despite its name, however, mandatory spending is not fixed in stone. The President and Congress can change the laws that govern entitlements or taxes, but they must take explicit action to do so.



ORLANDO HERALD  
KOTERBA



**The Purse is open:  
We best look and see...**

\$19+ trillion. It makes our head spin. Take a look at the numbers. Remember, the power of the purse is given to the Congress - who is responsible to WE THE PEOPLE. We need to talk about this.

The debt limit—a.k.a. the debt ceiling—is the maximum amount of debt that the Department of the Treasury can issue to the public and to other federal agencies. Congress has raised the debt ceiling 74 times since March 1962 and even suspended it on occasion.

Some argue the deficits and debts are in line with historic averages when compared to GDP. Others claim that by mortgaging our future we also threaten our future.



Use the information from this packet to answer the following questions.

1. Define in your own words:

<b>Budget Deficit</b>	<b>National Debt</b>

2. Define in your own words:

<b>Appropriation</b>

3. What is the largest source of revenue for the federal government?
4. How much is the largest expense item in the federal government's budget?
5. How much money (est.) will be spent on Social Security?
6. What percentage of the US budget is spent on defense?
7. What is the relationship between deficits and the debt?
8. How much more is the government spending than it is taking in?
9. What is the opinion of the political cartoons on the previous page? Do you agree with them? Why or why not?

10. Who controls the budget in your personal life? Explain.

11. What efforts are being made to reduce the national debt?

12. What types of things must Congress consider when balancing the federal budget?

13. What are some programs that are more likely to get cut?

14. Name some programs that cannot be cut. Explain why these programs cannot be cut.

15. What impact do you think the national debt will have on your future?

## Influences on Lawmaking: Lobbyist

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**Directions:** Read and annotate the article below. Make margin notes based on important ideas in the text.

### What we get wrong about lobbying and corruption

By Lee Drutman April 16, 2015 (Washington Post)

To judge from polls, Americans are deeply concerned about political corruption. They share a widespread belief that members of Congress are unethical, with lobbyists as the only group seen as more unethical. The implicit understanding of politics is that the “special interests” and their lobbyists “buy” politicians, sort of like you’d buy a candy bar or a bag of chips out of a (very high-dollar) vending machine.

The problem with this view is not only that it is wrong, but also that it misdirects us. It asks us to analyze transactions between individual politicians and individual special interests, as if they were separate and independent events (they are neither) that can be described as either “corrupt” or “not corrupt” (a useless dichotomy).

In so doing, we miss the bigger and more important story. The real story is not that lobbying or special interests are inherently bad. We have had them as long as we’ve had politics.

The problem is that set of interests regularly overpowers the rest. Especially, related to big businesses trying to convince lawmakers to pass laws in their interest.

Organized interests collectively report \$3.2 billion a year in lobbying expenditures, and probably equally or greater amounts on non-reported lobbying-related activities. The most active organizations are now hiring upwards of 100 lobbyists to represent them. These statistics alone should tell us that special interests don’t “buy” politicians with campaign contributions. If they did, there’d be no point in spending all that money to hire lobbyists.

The reason to hire so many lobbyists is that genuine political influence is actually hard work. It requires building a compelling case and then making that case over and over and over again. It means being in multiple places at once. Most of the time in Washington, not much is happening at the measurable surface.

But in the slow churn of the “war of position,” relationships are being maintained. Supporting groups are being built. Opinions of the world are being repeated. Legislation is being drafted and checked for truth. Carefully selected voters are being brought in to tell carefully rehearsed stories. People are talking to other people, trying to figure out who will do what, what ideas are “serious” and “not serious,” what has a chance of moving, what isn’t going anywhere, what the press will cover, what voters might care about, and countless other attempts to shape the “common knowledge” of Washington.

The most active participants have many different goals they’d like to achieve: some long-term, some short-term. Scrutinize the lobbying reports of any major lobbying entity, and you will see an impressive range of issues and bills. Like a good venture capitalist, these major lobbying entities are investing in many possibilities, engaging in “spread betting” with the knowledge that one big tax break or patent extension or stalled regulation can more than justify a decade of government relations for a large corporation. Often, the main goal is keeping an issue *off* the agenda.

To focus only on the campaign contributions as transactional “buying” activity misses all this rich detail. Certainly, campaign contributions help, and all else equal, members of Congress are more likely to listen to those who contribute to their campaigns than those who don’t. But congressional offices get contributions from more people than they can effectively respond to. Often, they get contributions from interests on both sides of an issue.

Lobbyists also gain access because they have personal relationships with members or staff. Or because they have useful policy information or analysis – an especially valuable resource for young staffers who are stretched far too thin and

happy for any help. Or because they just keep showing up. For the last 15 years, companies have consistently spent 13 times more on lobbying than they have on PAC contributions.

While considerable empirical work finds that there is no consistent correlation between money spent on outcomes in any given case, it would be a tremendous mistake to then conclude that resources are irrelevant. The key is to understand resources in the aggregate. More resources allow you to hire more lobbyists, to work on more issues – to do more of everything.

Looking at lobbying in the aggregate, what jumps out is the stark imbalance in resources. Corporations blow everyone else out of the water. Business accounts for roughly 80 percent of all reported lobbying expenditures, about \$2.6 billion dollars a year now.

Certainly, there has always been “bias in the pressure system” (political science shorthand for the fact that not all interests are equally represented). But what’s new is just how much the steady and continued expansion of business lobbying over the last several decades has outpaced the traditional forces that once kept it in check.

The amount of political activity on behalf of large corporations today is truly unprecedented. The \$2.6 billion in reported corporate lobbying spending is now more than the combined under \$2 billion budget for the entire Senate (\$860 million) and the entire House (\$1.18 billion).

Meanwhile, the types of organized interests who we might expect to provide a countervailing force to business — labor unions, groups representing diffuse public like consumers or taxpayers — spend \$1 for every \$34 businesses spend on lobbying, by my count. Of the 100 organizations that spend the most on lobbying annually, consistently 95 represent business. In interviewing 60 corporate lobbyists for my book *The Business of America is Lobbying*, I asked them to identify the leading opposition on an issue on which they were currently working. Not a single lobbyist volunteered a union or a “public interest” group.

Even if we take the most benign view of lobbying as merely providing information and legislative support, these data suggest that, on many issues, policymakers hear significantly more often from one side than another. While no single investment leads predictably to any outcome, quantity and quality matter: To hire more and more senior and connected people to be more places to make more and better arguments on your behalf with more detail and build more and more high-impact allies improves one’s chances. How much? It depends. But, on average, it’s not zero.

This growing imbalance has had two major effects on the political system. First, it is increasingly difficult to challenge any existing policy that benefits politically active corporations. Though corporate lobbying has become more ambitious and more aggressive over the years, the top priority for most corporate lobbyists is still preserving the status quo. When I surveyed corporate lobbyists on the reasons why their companies maintained a Washington presence, the top reason was “to protect the company against changes in government policy.” On a 1-7 scale, lobbyists ranked this reason at 6.2 (on average) Second, the sheer amount of lobbying has created a policymaking environment that now requires significant resources to get anything done. Which means that, with increasingly rare exceptions, the only possible policy changes on economic policy issues are those changes that at least some large corporations support.

This state of affairs is not inevitable. But the key point is that we need to move past the overly simplistic questions about whether or not money “buys” votes or whether or not our politics are “corrupt.” These either/or questions are not only unanswerable; they also shift our focus away from seeing the system as a whole – a necessary first step toward making it work better.

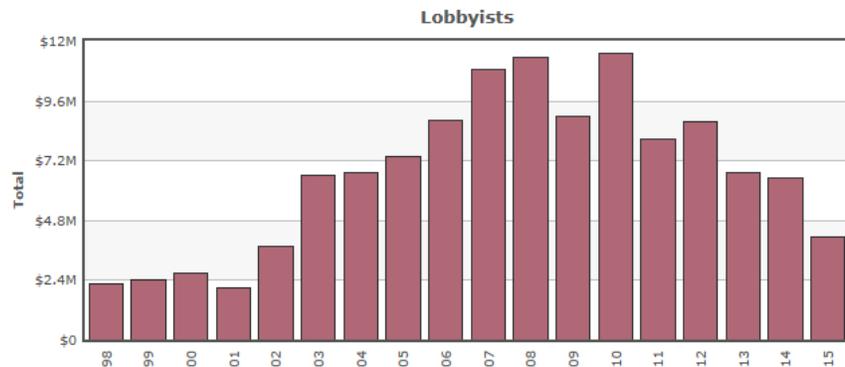
## Influences on Lawmaking: Lobbyist

Members of the *lobbying industry* have the task of representing clients -- including corporations, trade groups and nonprofit organizations -- and advocating on their behalf in the nation's capital. The relationship between lobbyists and lawmakers is complicated. On one hand, lobbyists pursue relationships with lawmakers in order to shape legislation so that it benefits clients who would be affected by new laws or regulations. On the other hand, lobbyists are frequently targeted by lawmakers as sources of campaign money, which the lobbyists feel beholden to give to improve their clients' prospects of success.

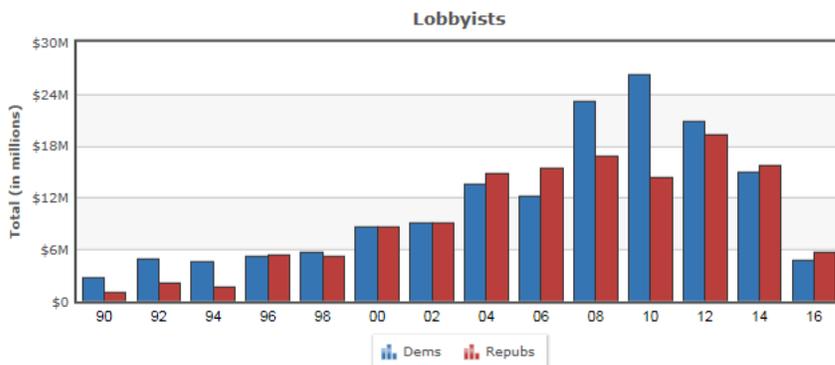
### Top 20 Recipients

Rank	Candidate	Office	Amount
1	Clinton, Hillary (D)		\$582,736
2	Bush, Jeb (R)		\$285,300
3	Schumer, Charles E (D-NY)	Senate	\$206,600
4	Boehner, John (R-OH)	House	\$196,500
5	Burr, Richard (R-NC)	Senate	\$136,463
6	Blunt, Roy (R-MO)	Senate	\$130,250
7	Bennet, Michael F (D-CO)	Senate	\$127,036
8	Rubio, Marco (R)	Senate	\$123,575
9	Van Hollen, Chris (D-MD)	House	\$114,379
10	Murray, Patty (D-WA)	Senate	\$109,337

### Lobbying Totals, 1998-2015



### Party Split, 1990-2016



## Influences on Lawmaking: Lobbyist

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**Directions:** Complete the following questions using the reading and graphs to support your reasoning.

1. Define lobbying in your own words. What is the misconception about lobbying?

2. Using the reading, identify and explain the strengths and weaknesses about lobbying.

<b>Strengths (3 Examples)</b>	<b>Weaknesses (2 Examples)</b>

3. What are the effects of lobbying on the political system? CITE TWO examples. Use one from the reading and one from the graphs.



