The Executive Branch and Cabinets

Executive Lectures #1 and #2

Two Hints for Test Three

Do Your Readings! Know Your People!

Let’s Talk About Governors

My favorite goofy government word:

Gubernatorial

Gubernatorial Websites

<http://www.nga.org/cms/home.html>

<http://www.nga.org/cms/governors/bios>

<http://www.arkansas.gov/governor/>

Who Are They? What Did They Do?

Gubernatorial Demographics

Political Career Paths

Example:

Florida Governor Charlie Crist in 2006. (Don’t let the cartoon on page 258 fool you.)

White

Male

Republican

Former legislator

Former Atty General

50 years old in 2006

History

General trend of increasing power, increasing centralization

Began as a VERY weak office

Sometimes even ‘plural executive’

Jacksonian populism began growth in gubernatorial power

Results:

Consolidation of agencies

Extended terms

Veto power

Strong Governor/Weak Governor

The Jobs of Governors

Smith 241-246

Chief Legislator

Head of State Agencies

Chief Spokeperson for the State

Political Party Chief

Commander of the National Guard

Powers of Governors

Smith 247-261

Formal Powers:

Appointments

Budget (it varies!)

Veto

Pardons, Reprieves, and Commutations

Call Special Session

Smith’s Informal:

Popular Support/Bully Pulpit

Party Support in Legislature

Communication/Media Attention

Let’s Talk About Governors: Strong vs Weak

Institutional Powers

(Ferguson/Beyle)

Separately Elected Officials,

Tenure Potential,

Appointment Powers,

Budget Power,

Veto Power,

Party Control

(Six scores averaged)

**Table 8.1, pp. 260-261**

“It Varies From State to State”

Lieutenant Governor

Runs on a separate ticket in 18 states

Serves as President of the Senate in 20 states

Seven states make do without! (New Jersey finally got one in 2010!)

Variance in power is HUGE! (Texas vs. Florida)

Constitutional Officers

Attorney General: All 50 states; elected in 43 states

Secretary of State: In 47 states; elected in 36 states

Treasurer of State: In 48 states; elected in 36 states

Auditor of State (or Comptroller): In 25 states

Partisan…

<http://ballotpedia.org/Gubernatorial_and_legislative_party_control_of_state_government>

Not so long ago (2008)…

**Arkansas’ Executive Branch**

Governor’s Powers:

**Separately elected officials**

Lt Gov, Sec of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Atty General

**Tenure potential**

Two 4 year terms (all Executive Branch elected officials)

**Appointment power**

3000 board appointments; all vacancies but US House, Assembly or Lt Gov

**Budget power**

Recommends budget to Assembly

**Veto power**

5 days to sign or veto; has line item veto; only takes 50%+1 to override

No pocket veto

**Party control** (not an enumerated, formal power)

an accounting of how much support he has in both houses

Other Powers or Roles:

**Legislative:**

Calls special sessions and dictates an agenda that must be completed first

Proposes “Governor’s Package” and “Governor’s Program” (p35 GIA)

**Judicial:** Reprieves

Commutations (Rockefeller the first)

Pardons

Also, extradition and fills judicial vacancies

**Commander in Chief**

Head of Arkansas National Guard (until activated or “called up”) (Faubus)

**Reorganizes Gov’t**

Last major reorg was 1971 under Bumpers (60 down to 13)

2003 Huckabee tried for 50 down to 10

Asa’s trying again!

**SWEEBO’s**

Arkansas doesn’t have a formal cabinet. We have State-wide Elected Executive Branch Officials (SWEEBO’s)

Also, 2014 was \*NOT\* A GOOD YEAR FOR THE SWEEBOs…

**Lieutenant Governor of Arkansas**

The State’s VP

Runs on separate ticket (as in 18 other states)

Serves as President of the Senate

Assumes Duties and Powers of the Governor (and now “office”) if the Governor is unavailable.

Former LT Gov Mark Darr (R) resigned effective Feb 1, 2014 after the Ethics Commission sanctioned him regarding campaign finance rules.

**Other Constitutional Officers**

Attorney General

Secretary of State

Treasurer of State

Auditor of State

**Special Statutory Officer**

Commissioner of State Lands

**Attorney General**

The State’s Lawyer

Leslie Rutledge (R)

Lots of Wanna Be Governors here

(Former AG Dustin McDaniel (D) didn’t run for Governor after all, what with his affair with the “craziest lawyer in all of Hot Springs” going public…)

**Secretary of State**

The State’s Race Car driver…

Mark Martin (R)

The State’s Record Keeper

(Was the state’s fiddle player: Charlie Daniels(D))

**Treasurer of State**

The State’s Bank (and Investment Banker)

Dennis Milligan (R)

(Former Treasurer Martha Shoffner (D) resigned due to a bakery/bribery scandal. Seriously. You can’t make that up.)

**Auditor of State**

The State’s Accountant (And Treasure Hunter!)

Andrea Lea (R)

(Also was once Charlie Daniels – He was especially good at musical chairs!)

**Commissioner of State Lands**

The State’s Repo Man

Returns defaulted land back to tax paying status

*Special Statutory Officer*

John Thurston (R)

**Boards and Commissions**

Semi-independent, appointed authorities who control among other things:

Land use

Professional licensure and practice

Education

Expenditure of state funds

Biggest: State Highway Commission, State Economic Development Board

<http://arkansasedc.com/>

<http://www.arkansashighways.com/commission.aspx>

<http://www.aroptometry.org/>

<http://www.arkansasethics.com/>

**Let’s talk about footnotes**

Kate Turabian – a paper writer’s BFF, which is a little creepy, since she’s been dead since 1987.

Your research project requires Turabian style footnotes. If you haven’t already got a copy, get one!