PLS 405, Section 1 PARTIES AND INTEREST GROUPS IN THE U.S. Part V: The Party in Government THE PARTY IN THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COURTS

- I. Presidents and governors as party leaders
 - A. The president as campaigner-in-chief
 - 1. Coattail effects
 - a. Positive:
 - b. Neutral or negative:
 - 2. Coattails even without the coat
 - a. Surge-and-decline pattern in presidential & midterm congressional elections (-34 seats in the 35 midterm elections between 1862 and 1998)
 - b. Explanations
 - (1) Decline in presidential popularity
 - (2) Increase in turnout among those who disapprove of presidential performance
 - (3) Absence of short-term forces with a reduction in turnout among less partisan
 - (4) Return of presidential defectors to their home party
 - (5) "Strategic" politicians deciding when to run for Congress
 - c. Exceptions: presidents whose party did not lose House seats in a midterm election
 - (1) Franklin Roosevelt (1934)
 - (2) Clinton (1998)
 - (3) George W. Bush (2002)
 - 3. Presidents' impact
- II. Party leadership and legislative relations
 - A. How executives try to influence legislatures
 - 1. Prestige
 - 2. Persuasiveness
 - 3. Command of media
 - 4. Patronage & preferments
 - 5. Coattails
 - B. Legislative support for executives Figure 14.1, p. 275
 - 1. Divided control of government
 - 2. Comparison to governors:
 - a. Legislative careerism
 - b. Seniority rules
 - c. Party organizational strength

III. Party influence in executive agencies pp. 276-79

- A. Bureaucrats have constituents too
 - 1. Bureaucratic responsiveness to constituency interests:
 - 2. Legislative role in executive organization
 - a. Appointments & senatorial courtesy (less than 3000 positions)
 - b. Civil service
 - c. Independent agencies
 - 3. Plural-executive system in many states:
 - 4. Term limits for executives

- B. Holding bureaucrats accountable
 - 1. Cabinet and agency appointments
 - a. Partisan
 - b. Ideological
 - 2. White House staff and EOP appointments
- C. Changing political outlooks in the federal bureaucracy
 - 1. Generational replacement (of New-Deal/Fair-Deal/New-Frontier/Great-Society career appointees with Eisenhower/Nixon/Ford/Reagan/Bush appointees)
 - 2. *Senior Executive Service* created by the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (expanded the top-level management positions subject to presidential control by about 8500)
- IV. Traces of party in the courts Box, p. 280
 - A. Judicial voting along party lines
 - 1. Compared to party voting in legislatures:
 - 2. By type of case:
 - B. What causes partisan behavior on the courts? Box, p. 282
 - 1. Explicit partisan activity:
 - 2. Patronage:
 - C. Party and judicial appointments Box, p. 284
 - 1. Federal judges-
 - 2. State court judges
 - a. Gubernatorial appointment (6)
 - b. Legislative election (5)
 - c. General election partisan (13)
 - d. General election nonpartisan (14)
 - e. 'Missouri Plan' (12) –
 - 3. All five selection methods still produce measurable partisan outcomes in judicial decisions because of internalized value differences between Democratic and Republican judges
 - 4. Most continental European countries use civil-service, merit examinations
- V. The party within the executive and the judge
 - A. Similarities: main avenue of party influence is indirect (stemming from internalized values)
 - B. Important limits to direct influence