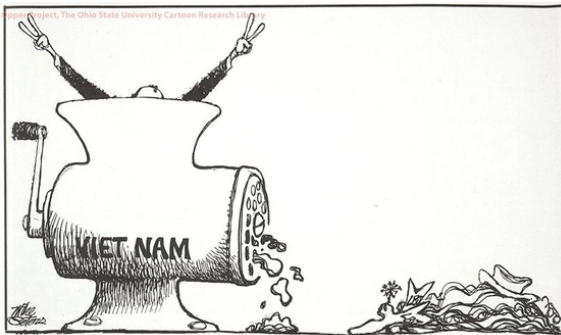


2.5 Checks on the President



**ESSENTIALS**

1. The potential for conflict with the Senate depends upon the type of executive branch appointments, including: Cabinet members, Ambassadors, White House Staff
2. Senate confirmation is an important check on appointment powers, but the president’s longest lasting influence lies in judicial life tenured appointments.
3. Term-of-office and constitutional-power restrictions, including the passage of the 22nd Amendment, demonstrate changing presidential roles.

1. What is the underlying idea of this cartoon? [Write your response like a claim statement]
  
2. How do both the 22<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and foreign policy issues severely limit a president’s agenda?
  
3. What current events have limited what our president wants to get accomplished?

**What is the *advise and consent* power of the U.S. Senate?**

For each of the following find recent examples of presidential appointments and the conflict in the Senate over confirmation. Look for differences in qualifications for each. Do White House Staff employees need to be confirmed? Include names, responsibilities, and confirmation details...

| Cabinet members | Ambassadors | White House Staff |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|
|                 |             |                   |

**Assess recent presidents attempts to PACK the court with like-minded Supreme Court Justices. How many Supreme Court appointments did they have? How many were approved? Rejected? Voting record? Provide names, etc...**

| George W. Bush | Barack Obama | Donald Trump |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
|                |              |              |

What president saw the most confirmed justices during his presidency?

What president saw the most rejected justices during his presidency?

*Write a brief memoir for the **22<sup>nd</sup> Amendment**. When was it passed? Explain the context for the passage of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. Include at least two (2) authoritative voices/expert opinions regarding its advantages and disadvantages.*

## CONCEPT APPLICATION

In both 1940 and 1944, the Republican party platform called for a constitutional amendment to limit a president to two terms. The Republicans, however, were unable to defeat the incumbent FDR at the polls. Then, in 1946, for the first time in almost two decades, they gained control of Congress. Only once during the next forty years would both Houses of Congress belong to the Republicans. One of the Republicans' first priorities in 1946 was a constitutional amendment to prevent any future president from gaining a Roosevelt-type hold on the White House. The ensuing controversy renewed a debate which began in the Constitutional Convention of 1787 and in the subsequent state ratifying conventions. At the Constitutional Convention, the question of presidential tenure occupied extensive time and severely tried the patience of many of the Founding Fathers. Congress began its own struggle with the question in 1803, when the first proposal to limit presidential tenure was introduced. The idea of changing the length of the presidential term appeared in 1808. Resolutions proposing a variety of limitations followed, seeking to gain approval for a single one, four, five, six, seven, and eight-year term. In 1824 and again in 1826, the Senate approved resolutions calling for a two-term limit, but they died in the House. At the outset of the Civil War, the Congress of the Confederate States of America adopted a constitution limiting the president of the Confederacy to a single six-year term.

Source: Stephen W. Stathis, "The Twenty-Second Amendment: A Practical Remedy or Partisan Maneuver?" *Constitutional Commentary*, Vol. 7

- A. Referencing the scenario, describe the foundations of the idea for a two-term president.
- B. Explain how partisan differences affected the evolution of the idea described in Part A.
- C. In the context of the scenario, explain how presidents are checked through informal means.