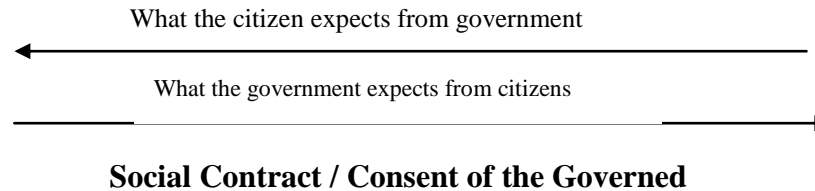


## Fitting the Pieces Together: Major Ideas and Concepts

### Purpose of Government:

Economic decision making  
Social order and protection of rights  
Provide Services  
National Security



### Citizens

Agree to give power to the government to rule –

### Consent of the Governed

Agree to pay taxes and obey laws

## Protection of Rights and Maintaining Social Order

When the colonists declared their independence from Great Britain and created our government, they relied on their heritage to guide them. The people who wrote our Constitution are known as the “**Framers of the Constitution**”. [Writers of the Constitution]

Because the “Framers of the Constitution” were familiar with the following documents, the beliefs or principals in each document influenced the creation of our government.

The Magna Carta 1215 – **limited government, rule of law** (everyone must follow the law), **consent of the governed** (people) and individual rights – **due process** (trial by jury). “No Freeman shall be punished... unless by the lawful judgment of his peers, or by the law of the land.” Quote often used on the HSA.

The English Bill of Rights 1689 added 2 more ideas

- **separation of powers** (king and parliament – to keep any one part of the government from becoming too strong)
- **social contract** ( an agreement between the citizens and the government – the citizens give the government power and the government agrees to protect their rights and safety).

The Mayflower Compact 1620 – added the idea that the authority of the government comes from the people “**We, the undersigned...**” **Consent of the Governed.** {The Preamble to the U.S. Constitution starts with similar words. “We, the People of the United States...” Both of these documents are examples of the principle: **Consent of the Governed**

When Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence he used these ideas and added John Locke’s ideas – **all men are created equal and have certain natural or inalienable rights** – life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. He accused the king of breaking the **social contract** by not protecting their rights and safety.

The Framers of the Constitution had models of government to use as examples:

**A. Authoritarian / Totalitarian** – Unlimited government

**Autocracy** – rule by one – monarchy / dictatorship (Cuba)

**Oligarchy** – rule by the few (China)

**Monarchy** – rule by king or queen

Advantage – decisions made quickly

Disadvantage – People’s rights are not protected

**B. Democracy** –Rule by the people

- **Direct** – all people make decision – only works in small groups / USA was too big / people’s rights are protected
- **Representative Democracy** – people elected others to run the government
  - **Parliamentary Democracy** – elected lawmakers (legislative branch) chose the country’s leader (executive branch). Advantage - Qualified people elect leader. Disadvantage - citizens have less voice in choosing the leader. EX. Great Britain and Canada
  - **Presidential Democracy** – people elect their lawmakers (legislative branch) and leader (executive branch) – President. Advantage - Citizens have a greater voice in government. Disadvantage – The best leader may not be elected.
    - **The Electoral College** was created to protect the country from choosing a poor leader. We have an indirect election of our president. People elect “electors” who cast their state’s electoral vote for the president. A candidate needs 270 votes or the House of Representatives chooses the president

**C. Organizational Forms of Government**

- **Unitary** – one strong central government – like Great Britain
- **Confederal** – states share power with the National government. Ex. Articles of Confederation. This form of government created inefficiency and a lack of unity
- **Federal** – National government shares power with the state governments – national government stronger than the state governments and provided unity for the nation.

Constitutional Convention wrote a new plan of government to correct the problems created by the Articles of Confederation:

It was a balancing act:

How to have a government that was strong, but still protected peoples’ rights, promoted the common good (maintain social order) and provided economic and national security?

**Principles used to limit the powers of the government: Limited Government**

- **Rule of law** – everyone must follow the law including government officials.
  - **Equal Protection** – all citizens have the same rights and protections provided by the Constitution.
  - **14<sup>th</sup> amendment** – due process applies to all citizens of the USA
    - Equality
      - **Civil Rights Act of 1964**
      - **Voting Rights Act of 1965**
      - **Title IX**
    - Equity
      - **Affirmative action**
      - **Individuals with Disabilities Act**

- **Consent of the Governed & Popular sovereignty** - the power of the government comes from the people
    - **Representative Democracy** –People elect representatives to vote and make laws for them.
    - **Majority rule** – the greater number of people elect officials and determine government policy.
      - Political Parties – Democrats, Republicans, independents and third parties
      - Special Interest groups and lobbyist
      - Initiatives (laws introduced by citizens) and Referendums (citizens vote on passage of laws)
- Influences on elections and government policy →
- **Separation of Powers** – divide the powers of the government into three branches so each has limited powers. Legislative Congress / Md. General Assembly), Judicial (Courts) and Executive (President and Governors)
    - **Checks and Balances** – Each branch of government has the power to check or stop the other branch from becoming too powerful.
      - **Judicial Review** – Supreme Court has the power to declare actions of Legislative and Executive Branch unconstitutional. **Marbury v Madison**
    - **Federalism** – government power is divided between the national and states governments.
      - **McCulloch v Maryland** established the national government was stronger than the state governments.
      - Powers given to Congress are called **enumerated or delegated powers**. Ex. Declare War or Print Money
      - Powers given to the states are called **reserved powers**. Also protected by the 10<sup>th</sup> amendment – all powers not given to the national government belong to the states. Ex. Set Up Schools and Marriage Laws
      - Powers share by both the states and the national government are called **concurrent powers**. Ex. Power to tax and enforce laws.
      - To protect the peoples’ rights, certain powers were denied to Congress:
        - Bills of Attainder** –punishing a person without a trial
        - Pass Ex Post Facto Laws** - laws that punish actions before their were made illegal
        - Can not suspend **Habeas Corpus** – right to have a judge review if you are being detained illegally
        - Can not grant titles of nobility or tax exports

The **Bill of Rights** is a list of peoples’ rights. Congress cannot make laws that take these rights away.

- Amendments are formal changes to the Constitution – most of these changes have increased the rights of the people.
- The ability to change the Constitution is the reason why it is the oldest written form of government and referred to as a “Living Constitution”.

## The Bill of Rights

Freedom of Religion, Press, Assembly  
Petition and Speech

Right to bear arms

No Quartering of Troops

No Unreasonable Search and Seizure

### Rights of the Accused

- Right to know charges against you
- Can't be tried twice for the same crime – double jeopardy
- Can't be forced to testify against yourself
- Can't have life or property taken from you without due process of law
- Can't have private property taken from you for public use without just compensation

- Right to a speedy and public trial with an impartial jury of your peers
- Right to see witnesses against you
- Assistance of a lawyer in your defense

### Tinker v Des Moines

Freedom of speech in school so long as it doesn't disrupt the educational environment

### New Jersey v T.L.O

School officials can search students without a warrant

### Miranda v Arizona

Accused must be informed of his rights

### Eminent domain:

Government can take private property for public use – must pay the owner

Subpoena – court order for a witness to testify in court

### Criminal Cases:

Misdemeanor – less serious crime

Felony – major crime / year or more in jail

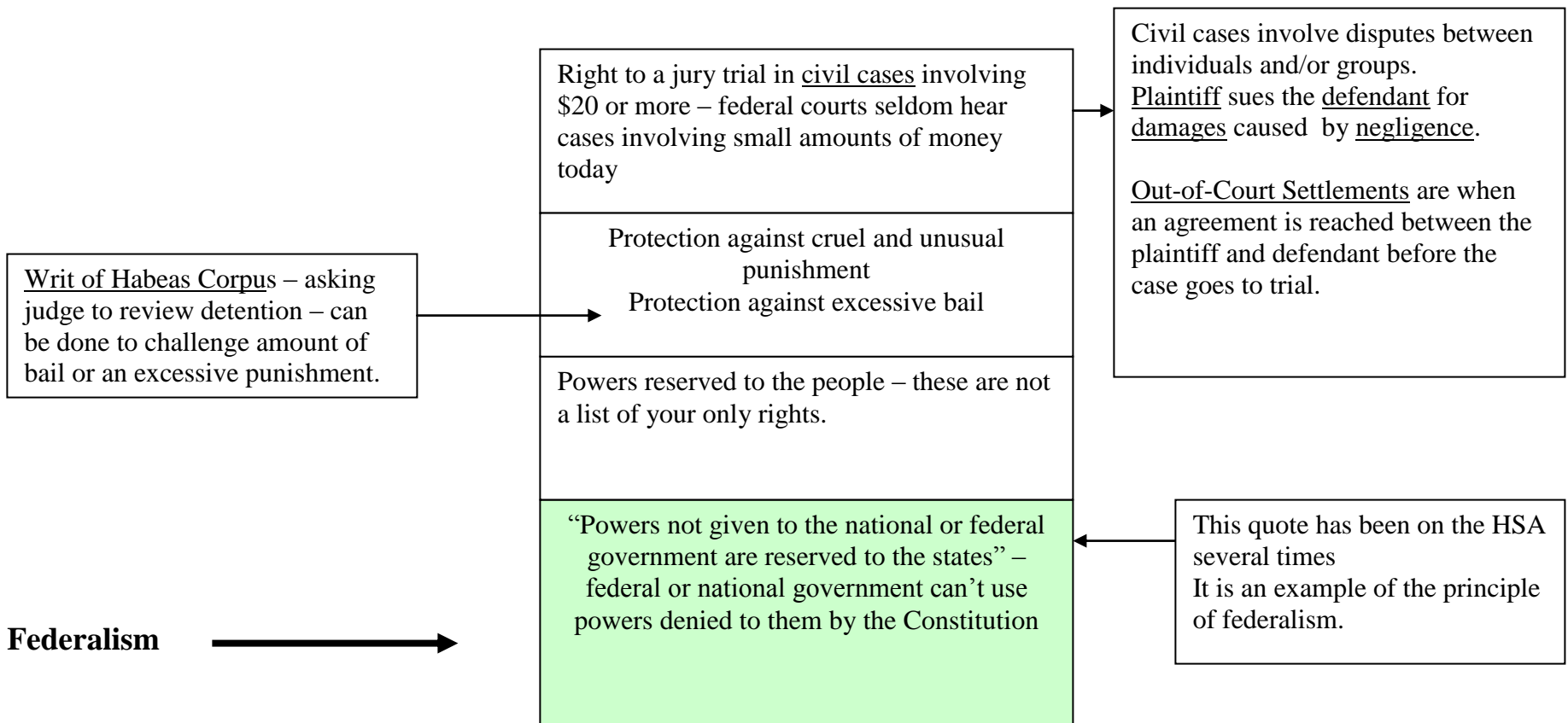
Prosecutor - represents the government / tries to prove defendant guilty

Plea Bargain – defendant pleads guilty to a lesser charge / less punishment.

Avoids expense of a trial / Encourages the innocent to plead guilty.

### Gideon v Wainwright

Right to a lawyer (legal counsel, legal representation, attorney) even if you can't afford one.



Amendments 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 describe due process rights.

The Fourteenth Amendment provides for equal protection and due process for all citizens – Incorporation Doctrine – states must provide equal protection and due process rights described in the Bill of Rights.

**Plessy v. Ferguson** – separate but equal facilities for the different races was constitutional provided the facilities are equal.

**Brown v. Board of Education** –overturned separate but equal doctrine – declared unconstitutional because it violated the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment providing for equal treatment.

## Provide for National Security

### Checks and Balances at work:

The President is Commander in Chief of the Military / Only Congress has the power to declare war and fund the military.

*“Sword and the Purse must not be in the same hands”* [quote is an example of the principles of checks and balances and separation of power]

- **War Powers Act** – after 60 days of troops being sent to conflict areas, President must get Congress’ approval to keep them there.

The President can negotiate treaties with other countries but needs the Senate’s approval for ratification.

### Foreign Policy Tools:

Punishments – economic sanctions ( refusal to trade) and military action – invasion of Iraq or the trade embargo with Cuba

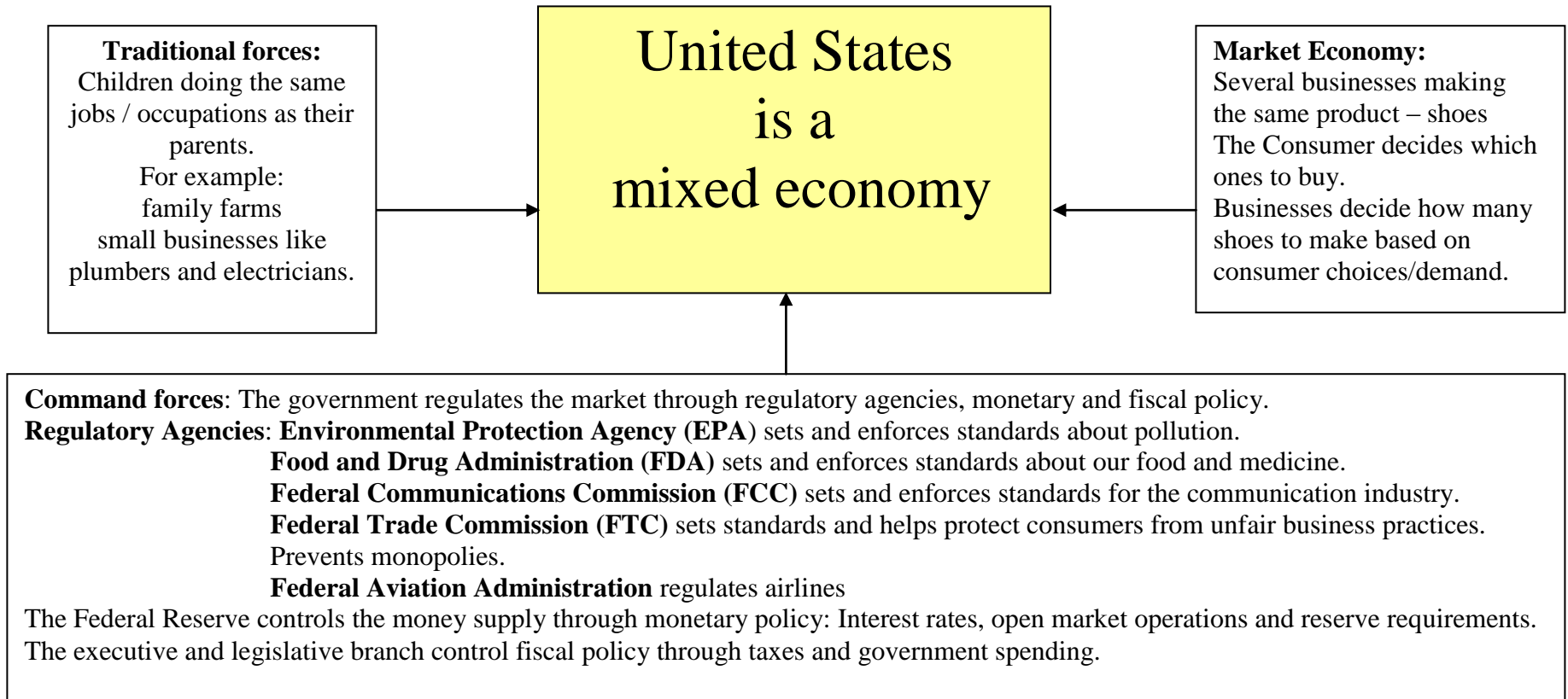
Rewards – economic aid and alliances (trade and/or military)

### International Organizations

Purpose	Organization	Description
Security	<b>United Nations</b>	Prevent war
	<b>North Atlantic Treaty Organization</b>	Military self protection alliance
Economic	<b>North American Free Trade Agreement</b>	Increase trade between US, Mexico & Canada
	<b>International Monetary Fund</b>	Lends money to developing nations
	<b>World Bank</b>	Gives advice and loans to countries
Humanitarian	<b>International Red Cross</b>	Assist countries during times of disasters – war or natural

## Economic Decision Making : Economic Systems

- **Command Economy** – basic economic questions of “what”, “how”, and “for whom” goods are produced are made by the government. For example: the former Soviet Union and China
- **Market Economy** - basic economic questions of “what”, “how”, and “for whom” goods are produced are made by the buyers and sellers.
- **Traditional Economy** - basic economic questions of “what”, “how”, and “for whom” goods are produced are made by the way things were done in the past.
- **Mixed Economy** – uses traditional, command and market methods to answer the basic economic questions of “what”, “how”, and “for whom” goods are produced.



## Economic Goals of Society

1. **Economic Performance**- produce more and better goods and services. This is measured by Gross Domestic Product. 3-5% growth is acceptable.
2. **Full Employment**- provide good jobs for everyone willing and able to work. This is measured by the Unemployment Rate. 4-6% unemployment is acceptable.
3. **Price-Level Stability**- avoid large swings in prices (inflation or deflation). This is measured by the Consumer Price Index. 3-5% inflation is acceptable.

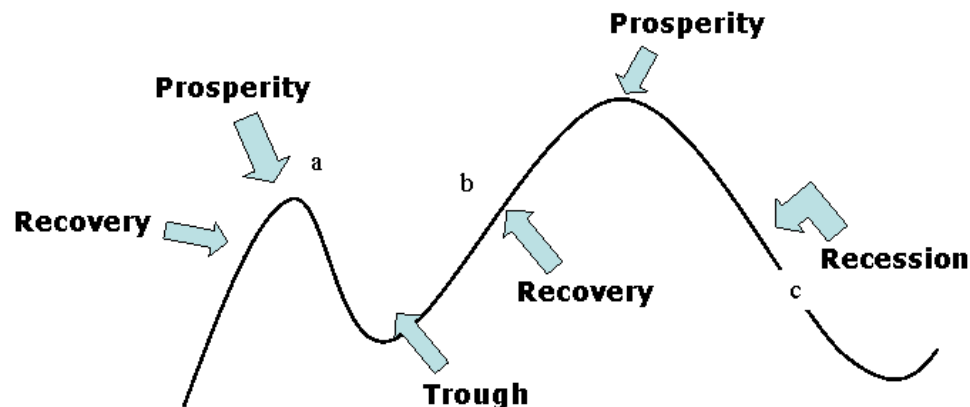
## Economic Indicators

1. **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**- The value of all goods and services produced in a country in a year.
2. **Unemployment Rate**- The percentage of people who are willing and able to work but are unable to find a job.
3. **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**- the average cost of a market basket of goods. This is a measure of prices and inflation.

## The Business Cycle

The U.S. economy tends to go through series of ups and downs known as the business cycle. The government uses economic indicators to determine the stage of the business cycle our economy is in. The business cycle is said to have 4 phases or stages.

1. **Peak (Prosperity)** - the economy is booming and near capacity, there is little unemployment, business and consumer spending is high. Inflation can be a problem in this stage.
2. **Recession**- six months of declining GDP is referred to as a recession. There is a reduction in business and consumer spending. Workers may be laid off and there is a slowing of business activity.
3. **Trough**- the economy reaches its low point, unemployment is high, factories operate below capacity, production declines and many businesses may fail.
4. **Expansion (recovery)** - business and consumer spending start to increase, unemployment declines, output and production begin to increase.





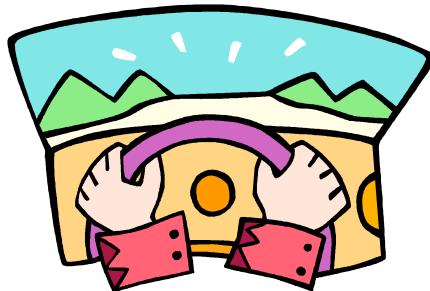
## Government Tools to help stabilize the economy:

- **Fiscal Policy** – Congress – Increase or lower taxes / Increase or lower government spending (increasing taxes lowers inflation and economic growth / increasing spending increases inflation and economic growth)
- **Monetary Policy** – The Federal Reserve - 3 tools
  - **Reserve requirement** – how much money banks must keep in vault (safe)
    - Increased – less money available banks to make loans – less money in circulation
    - Decreased – more money available for banks to make loans – more money in circulation
  - **Discount Rate** – amount of money the Fed charges for banks to borrow money.
    - Increased – less people / businesses will borrow money – less money in circulation
    - Decreased – more people/businesses will borrow money – more money in circulation
  - **Open Market Operations**- buying and selling of government securities.
    - Selling securities takes money out of circulation
    - Buying securities puts more money in circulation

Less money in circulation – lowers inflation and slows economic growth

More money in circulation – increases inflation and increases economic growth

Think of it like driving a car – you steer a little to the right and then to the left just to stay on the road. Constantly making small adjustments.. That is what the Federal Reserve does with the money supply.



## Land Use / Zoning Smart Growth

Development		Conservation – Open Spaces	
Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons
Economic growth	More traffic	Areas for all to enjoy	Less tax revenue
More tax revenue	More services needed	Save natural resources	Less jobs
More jobs	More pollution	Less pollution	Less homes
More homes	Destroys natural resources	Less traffic	
	Urban Sprawl		

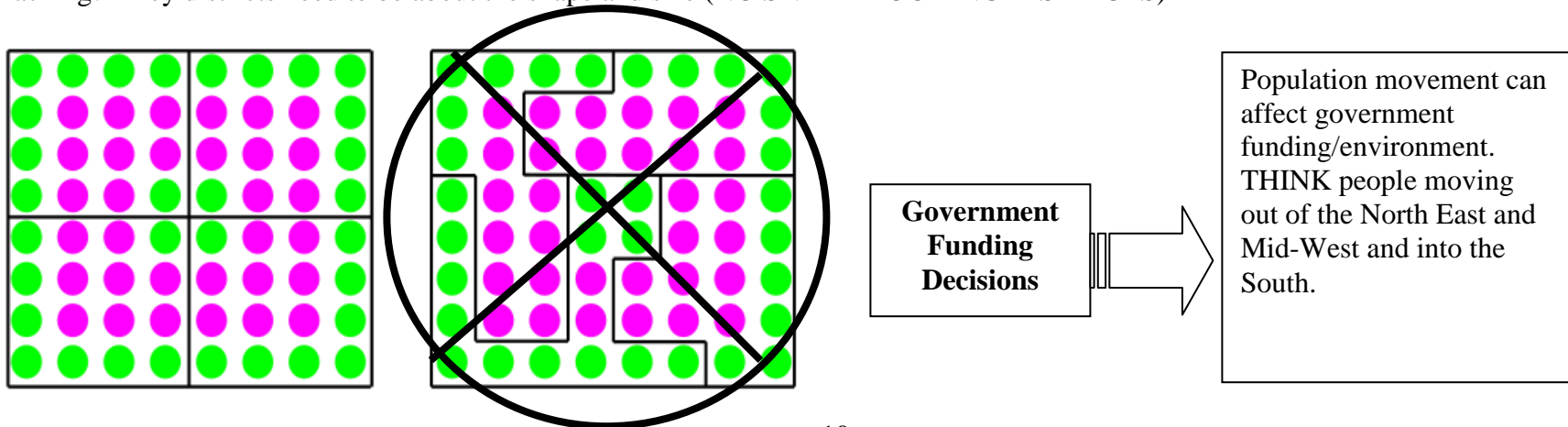
### Smart Growth

Urban Sprawl is the movement out of cities into the suburbs. This has created increased traffic congestion, pollution, destruction of natural resources and the need to build new roads, electric and sewage lines. Smart Growth attempts to correct this trend.

Goal is to balance the need for development and conservation. Revitalize run down urban areas with new homes and businesses. The roads, electric, sewage and public transportation are already in place in those areas. Natural resources are not be destroyed.

Population growth and movement is measured by the census [a counting of the population every ten years].  
Demographic influences on political participation:

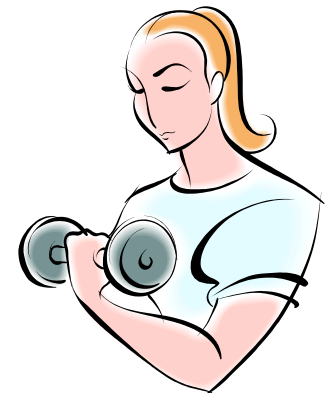
- **Reapportionment:** When population increases or decreases in a state the state may lose or gain members in the House of Representatives! (Remember- the House of Reps. Is based on population...NOT the Senate)
- **Redistricting:** The state redraws its congressional district lines...NO **gerrymandering** (illegal when based on race) and NO packing and cracking! They districts need to be about the shape and size (NO SNAKE LOOKING DISTRICTS)



### Three Branches of Government and Separation of Powers

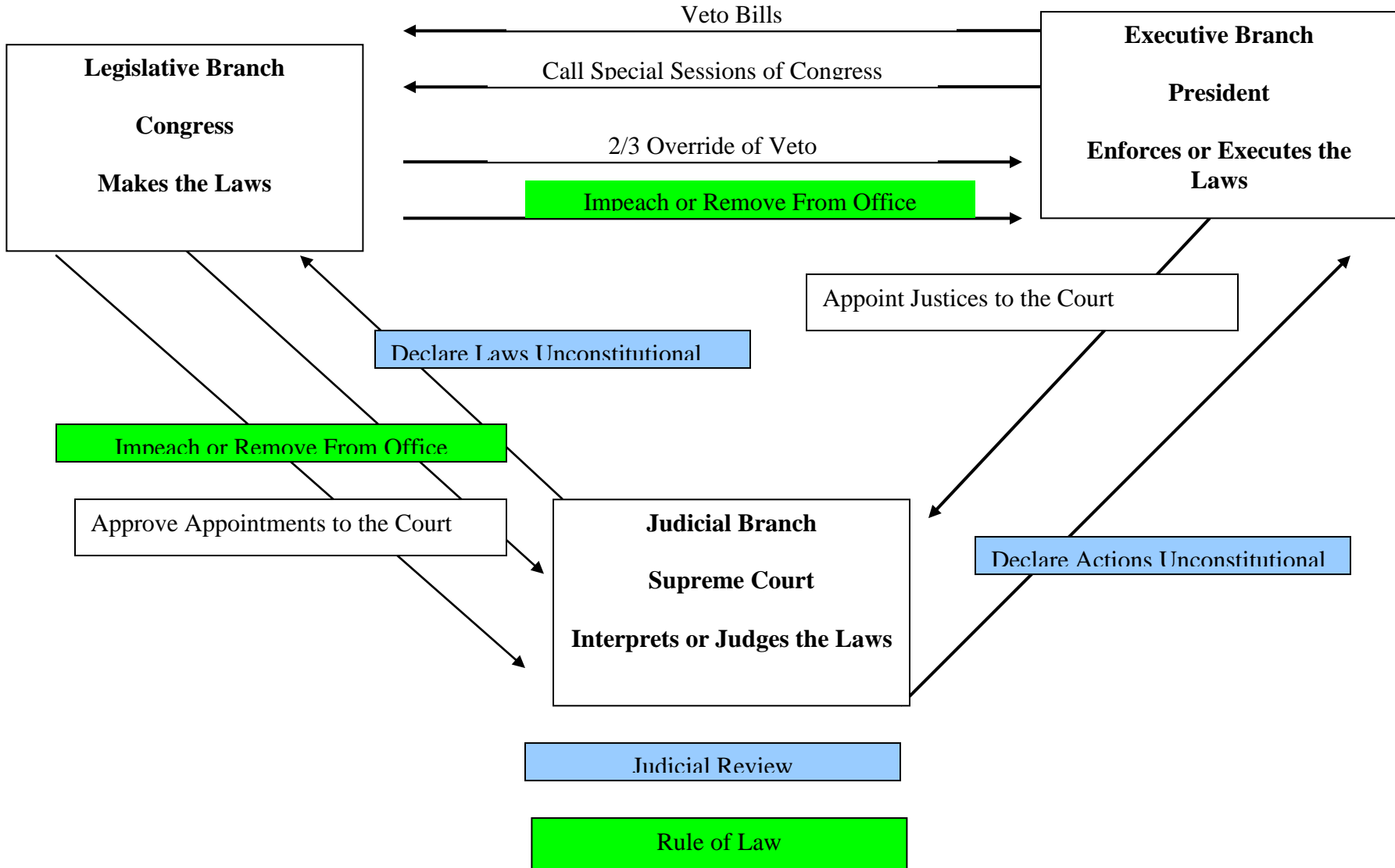
	Executive Branch	Legislative Branch	Judicial Branch
Common Name National	President	Congress	Supreme Court
Common Name State	Governor	General Assembly	Court of Appeals
Powers	<u>E</u> nforce or Carry Out the Law	<u>L</u> awmakers or Makes the Law	<u>J</u> udge or Interpret the Laws

Supreme Court Case **Marbury v Madison** gave the Supreme Court more power by establishing the principle of **Judicial Review** – the Supreme Court can declare laws and actions of the other two branches unconstitutional.



### Checks and Balances

Gives each branch of government has the power to stop the other two branches from becoming too powerful.



# Federalism

