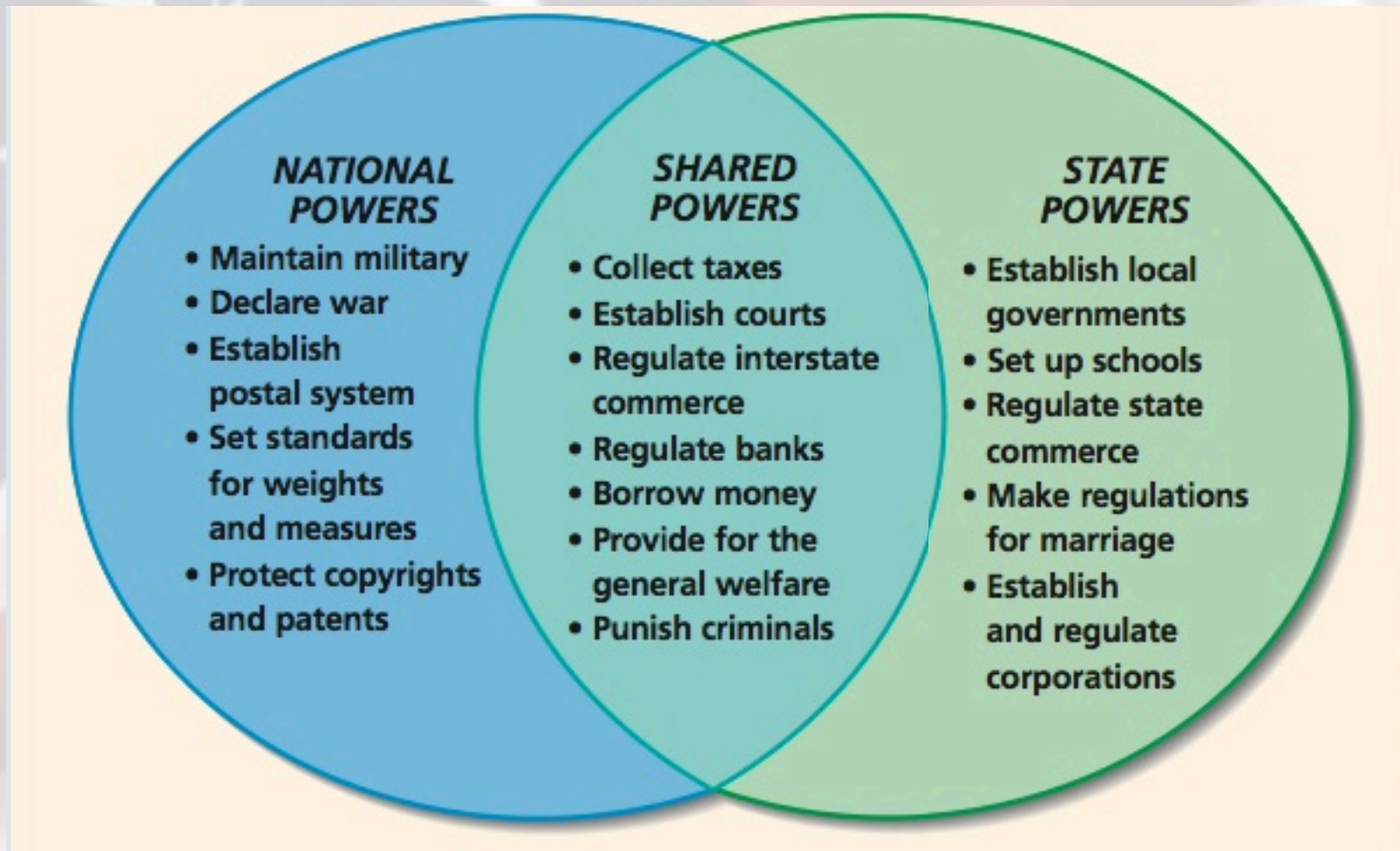


# The Constitutional System

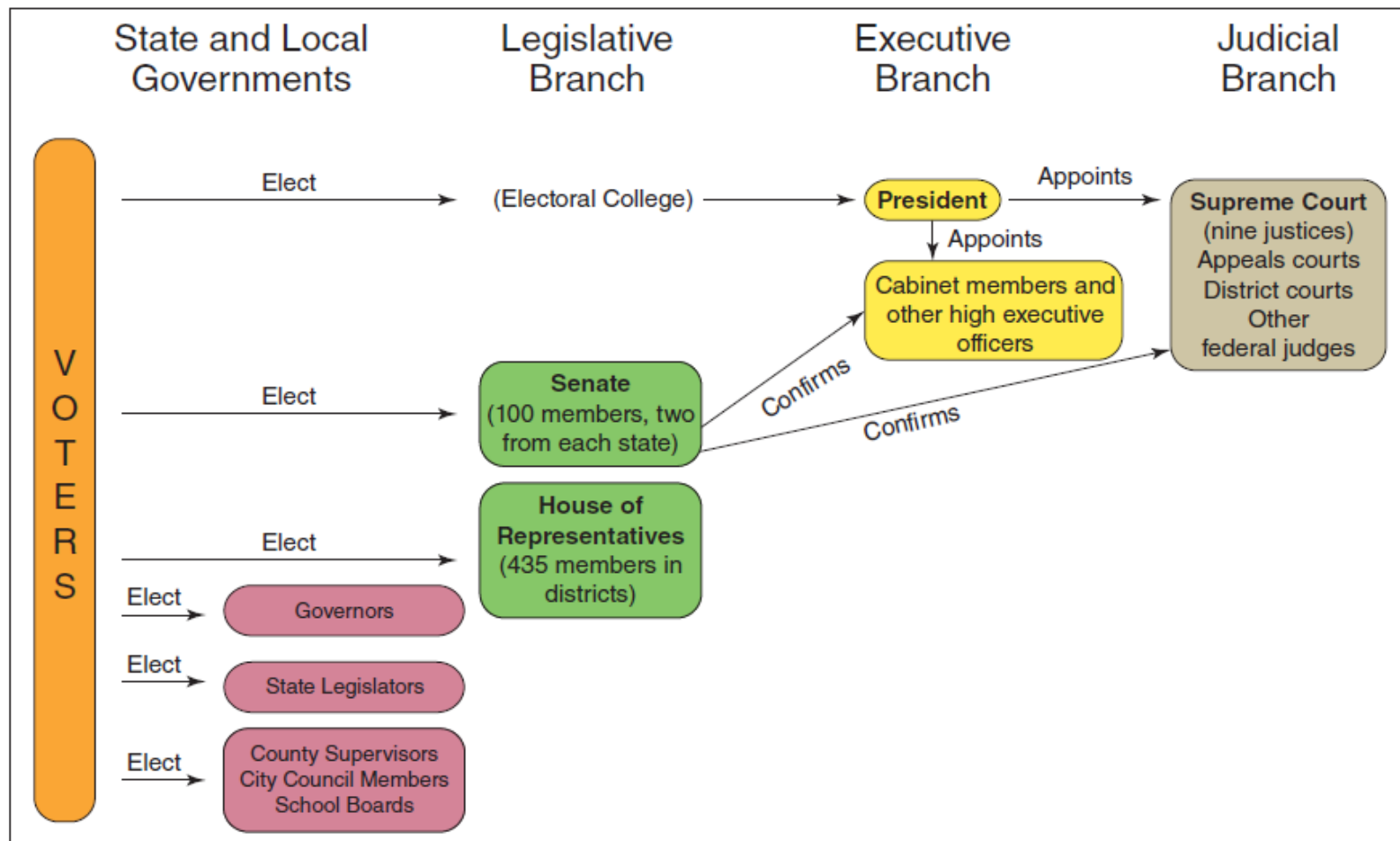
- Federalism
  - Divides power in principle ways:



# The Constitutional System

- Separation of Powers (WHAT PHILOSOPHER?)
  - Important difference between our presidential democracy, most other democratic systems
  - Each branch of U.S. government selected by different procedures for different terms
    - House
    - Senate
    - President
    - Courts
- Judicial Review
  - Power of court to render legislative or executive act null and void on grounds of unconstitutionality

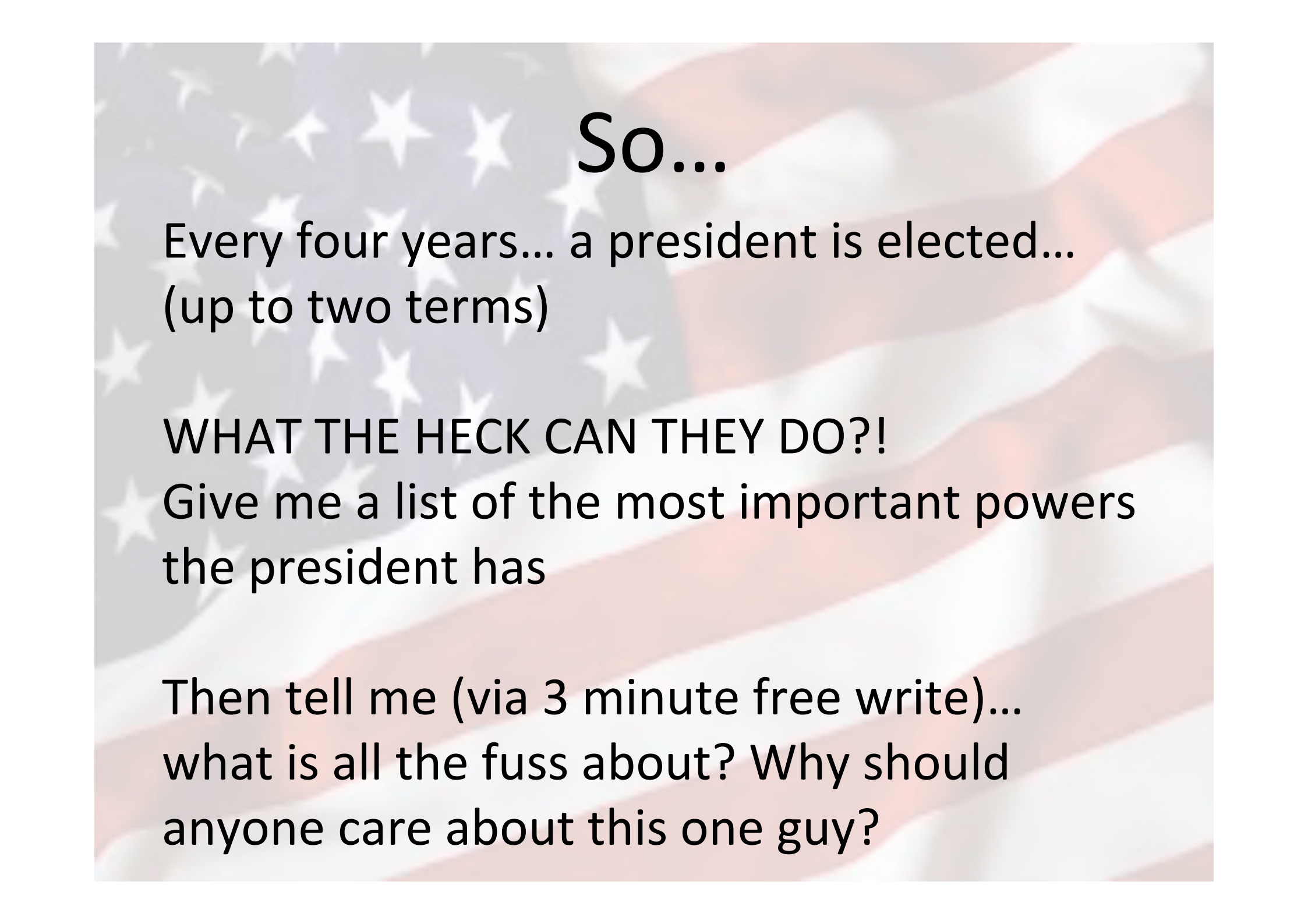
# The Constitutional System



**FIGURE 19.2**

## The Government of the United States

Source: *The United States Government Manual 2005/2006* (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2005), 21.

The background of the slide is a faded, semi-transparent image of the United States flag, showing the stars and stripes. The text is overlaid on this background.

# So...

Every four years... a president is elected...  
(up to two terms)

WHAT THE HECK CAN THEY DO?!

Give me a list of the most important powers  
the president has

Then tell me (via 3 minute free write)...  
what is all the fuss about? Why should  
anyone care about this one guy?