Department of State 1789

1. Advises the president on foreign policy

2. Protects the rights of US citizens traveling in other nations

3. Represents the US at the United Nations and in other global

organizations

4. Maintains embassies and other agencies in foreign countries

Department of Treasury 1789

1. Prints paper money and makes coins

2. IRS – collects taxes 3. Borrows money

3. Borrows money for the federal government

4. Regulates the production & sale of alcohol, tobacco, & firearms

5. US Customs Service – collects taxes on items brought into US from

abroad

Department of Defense 1789 [War]

1. was originally 2 departments which were joined in 1949

a. The Department of War

b. The Department of the Navy

2. maintains the armed forces to protect the nation

3. is the largest branch of the executive branch

4. civilians hold most of the departments’ power

5. Joint Chiefs of Staff are the highest ranking officers from each military

Branch

Department of the Interior 1849

1. Protects & manages public lands – national parks & historic sites

2. Oversees the use of natural resources

3. Provides aid to Native Americans living on reservations

Department of Justice 1870

1. run by the ATTORNEY GENERAL

2. responsible for investigating when federal crimes are broken

3. tries and punishes federal criminals

4. FBI is the best know division of this department

Department of Agriculture 1889

1. helps farmers and consumers of farm products

2. Forest Service maintains national forests

3. Farmers’ Home Administration – money lender to farmers

4. Food Safety & Inspection Service helps maintain quality of consumables

5. Soil Conservation helps maintain fertile farm soil

6. Oversees food stamp and school lunch programs

Department of Commerce 1903

1. encourages the growth of American business

2. Bureau of the Census – counts the US population

3. National Patent and Trademark Office – keeps records on inventions

and product names

4. National Institute of Standards and Technology – sets weights and

Measures

Department of Labor 1913

1. enforce labor laws on working conditions, minimum wage, & pension

benefits

2. Encourages cooperation between business and labor

3. Unemployment Insurance Service – provides financial

aid to people who were forced to leave positions

4. Develops & runs job-training programs

Department of Housing and Urban Affairs 1965

1. Enforces federal fair-housing laws

2. Works to preserve & renew cities & neighborhoods

3. Manages home mortgage, rent subsidy, and public housing programs

Department of Transportation 1966

1. manage the country’s roads, rails, seas, & skyways

2. Regulates oil and gas pipelines

3. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration –safety stands. 4 cars

4. Federal Aviation Administration – oversees the airplane industry

5. DOT is the best known for US Coast Guard – search and rescue at sea

Department of Energy 1977

1. created in 1977 during a fuel crisis

2. created to work out and direct an overall energy policy in US

3. encourages energy conservation

4. conducts research into ways to use fuels more efficiently

5. regulates nuclear power

Department of Health and Human Services 1979

1. Manages Medicare and Medicaid

2. Social Security Administration & Family Support

Admin. provide financial support poverty stricken

3. Public Health Service – work to keep healthy Americans

a. includes Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

b. National Institutes of Health – health research

c. Food and Drug Administration – oversees of all

food, drug, & cosmetics

Department of Education 1979

1. Enfoeces federal education laws such as Individuals with Disabilities

Education Act [IDEA] and No Child Left Behind [NCLB]

2. Oversees federal funding programs for public and private schools

3. Oversees federal loan programs for students

Department of Veterans Affairs 1989

1. Manages educational training, pension, and medical benefits for

veterans

2. Operates military cemetaries

3. medical care at VA hospitals

Department of Homeland Security 2002

1. Oversees the security of the nation’s borders, transportation systems, oil and

gas pipelines, electric power sources and similar resources

2. Enforces immigration laws

3. Manages emergency preparedness and the response to emergencies FEMA

4. The Secret Service – protects Pres., VP, and other top-level officials