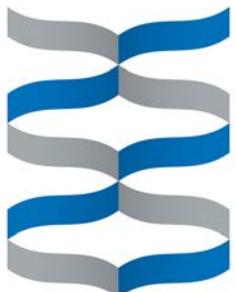


Federal Budget & Other Research Policy Issues Impacting Universities

Tobin L. Smith | @SciPolGuy
Association of American Universities
FDP | September 7, 2017
Washington, D.C.



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CHALLENGES

- Extreme Polarization & Gridlock
- Dismal Fiscal Situation
- Extreme Uncertainty



Normal Legislative Process



Legislative Process Today

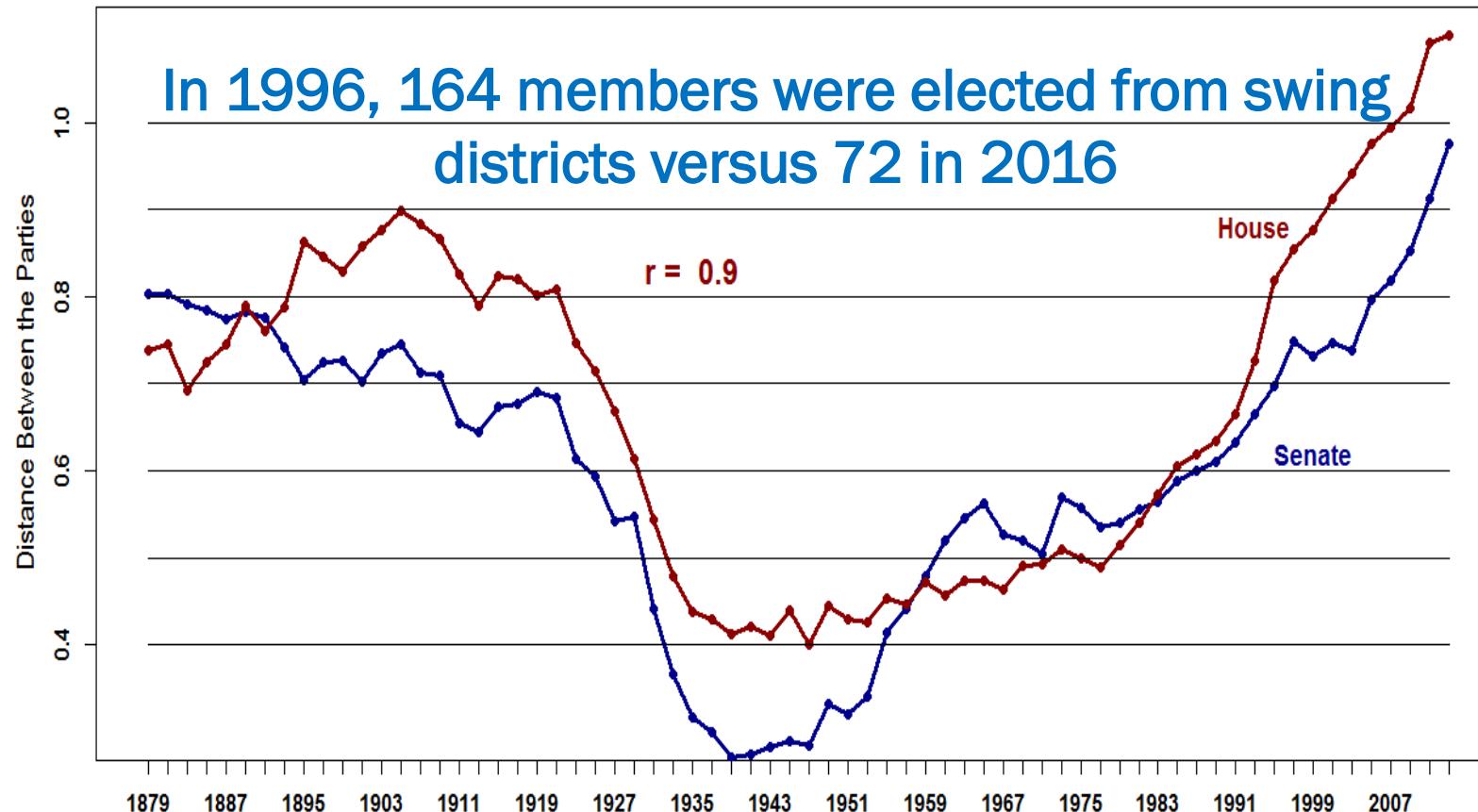


“In a real sausage plant, everybody is on the same team, trying to produce bratwurst or knockwurst. In the legislative sausage factory, at least half the people don’t want to make sausage. Or they want to make a different kind. For the last few years, Republicans have said, ‘We won’t make sausage unless we control the recipe.’ ”

—Alan Rosenthal, Professor of Public Policy , Rutgers University,
New York Times, “If Only Laws Were Like Sausages,” December 4, 2010

Party Polarization: 1879 - 2014

Party Polarization 1879-2014
Distance Between the Parties on the First (Liberal-Conservative) Dimension

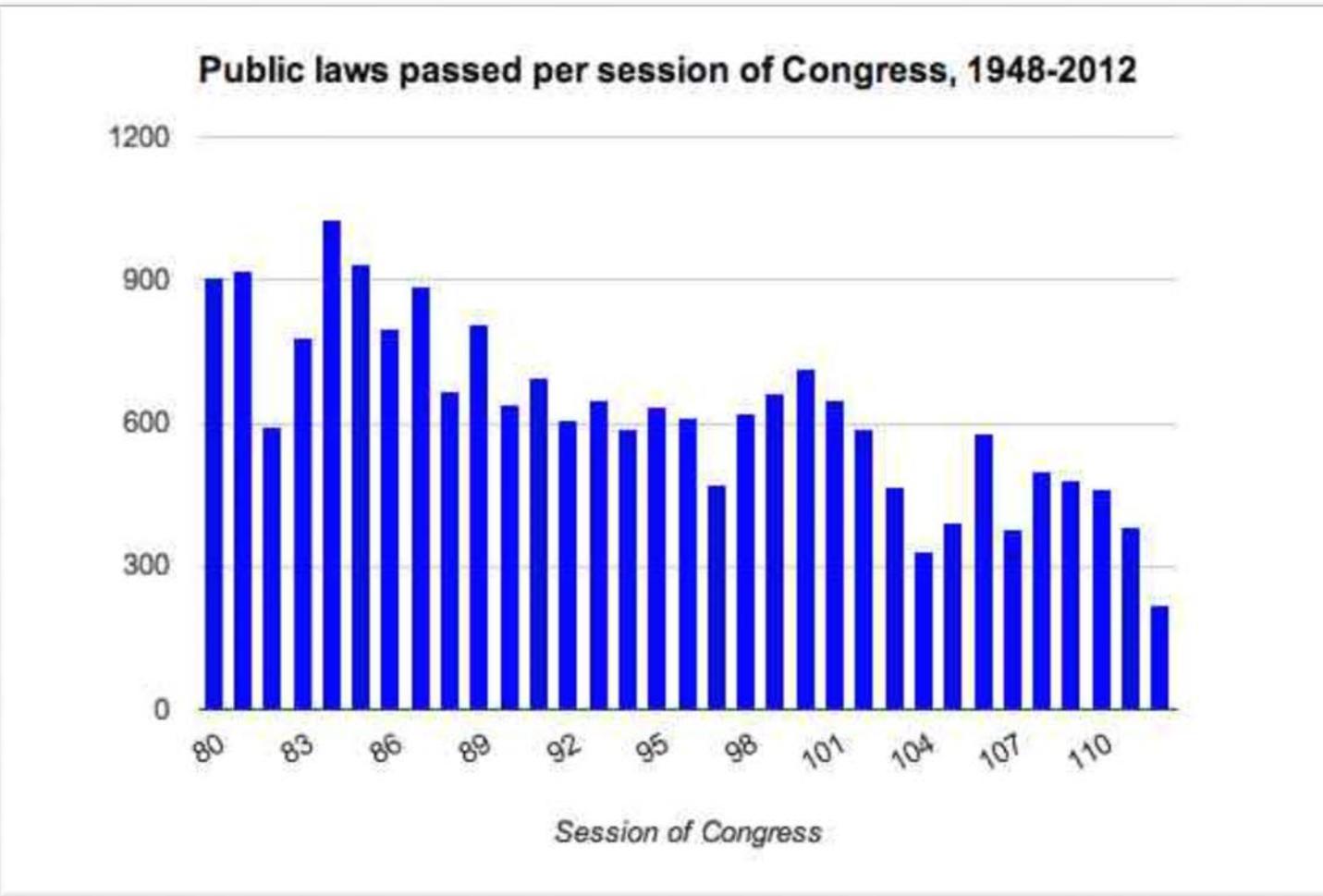


Polarized America / voteweb.com



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Legislative Productivity:



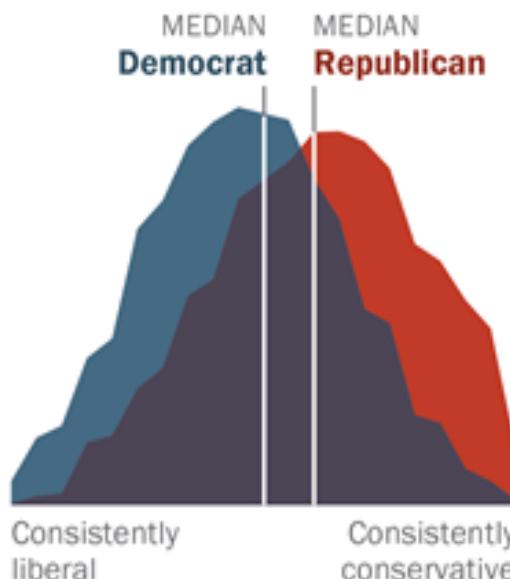
- 112th Congress (2011-2012): 284 Public Laws
- 80th Congress (1947-1948): 900 Public Laws
- 113th = 296 Public Laws 114th = 329 Public Laws

Increasingly Polarized Public

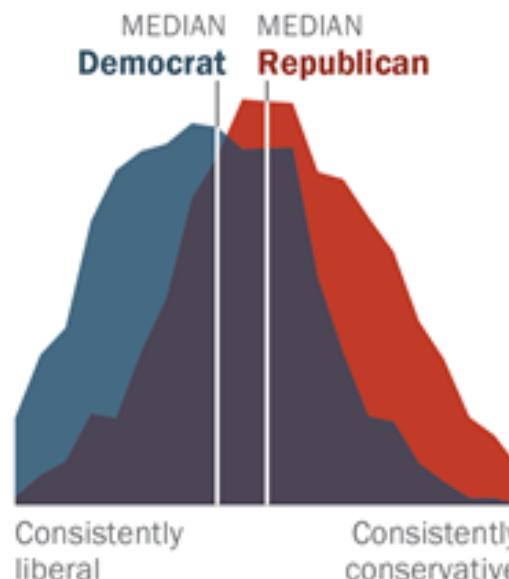
Democrats and Republicans More Ideologically Divided than in the Past

Distribution of Democrats and Republicans on a 10-item scale of political values

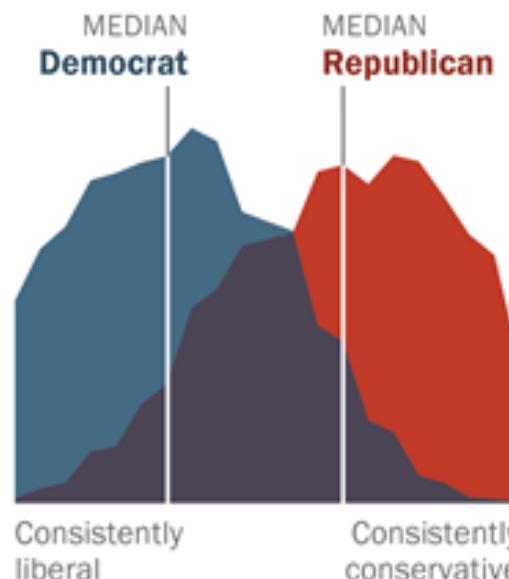
1994



2004



2014



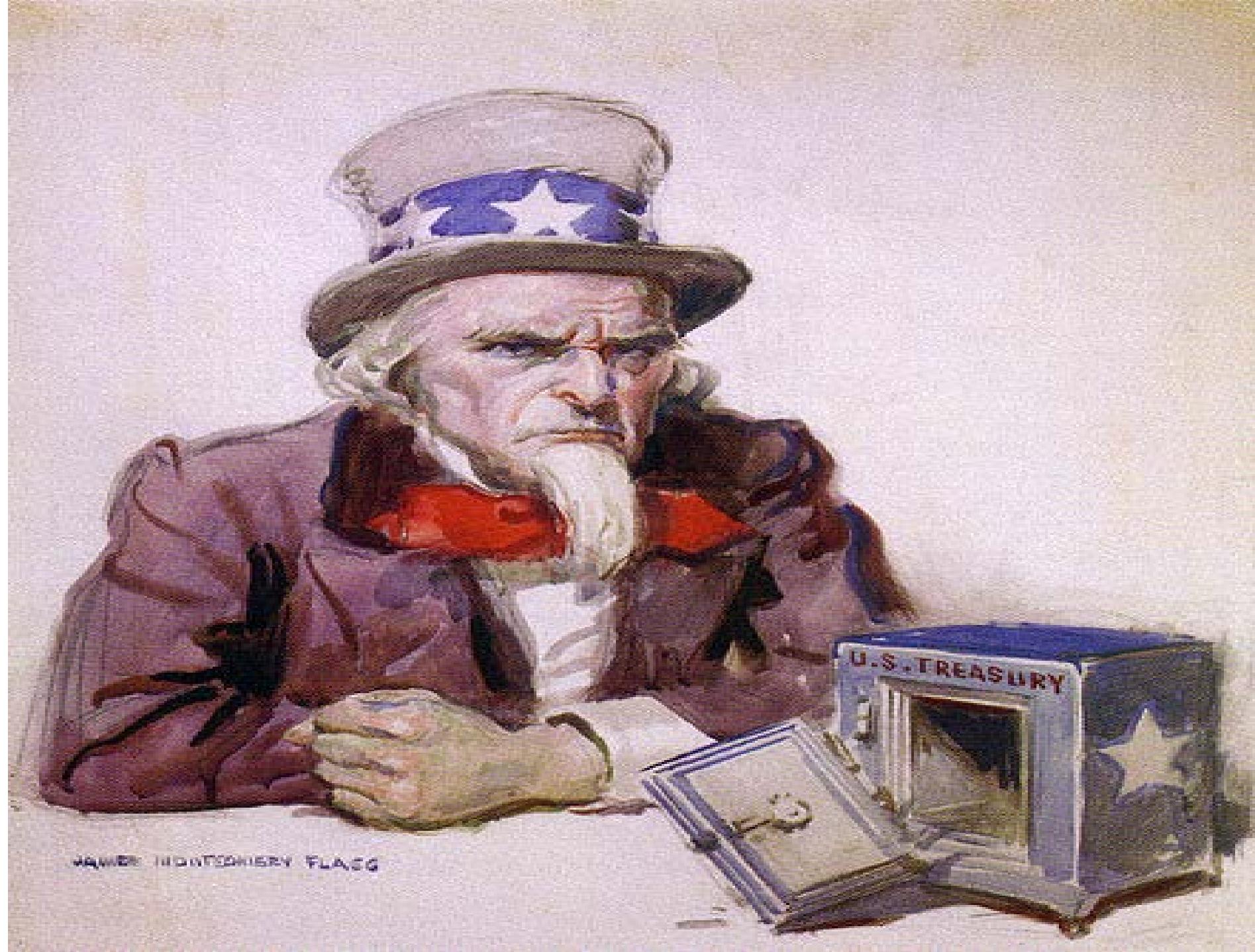
Source: 2014 Political Polarization in the American Public

Notes: Ideological consistency based on a scale of 10 political values questions (see Appendix A). The blue area in this chart represents the ideological distribution of Democrats; the red area of Republicans. The overlap of these two distributions is shaded purple. Republicans include Republican-leaning independents; Democrats include Democratic-leaning independents (see Appendix B).

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



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JAMES MONTGOMERY FLAGG

The Growing Innovation Deficit

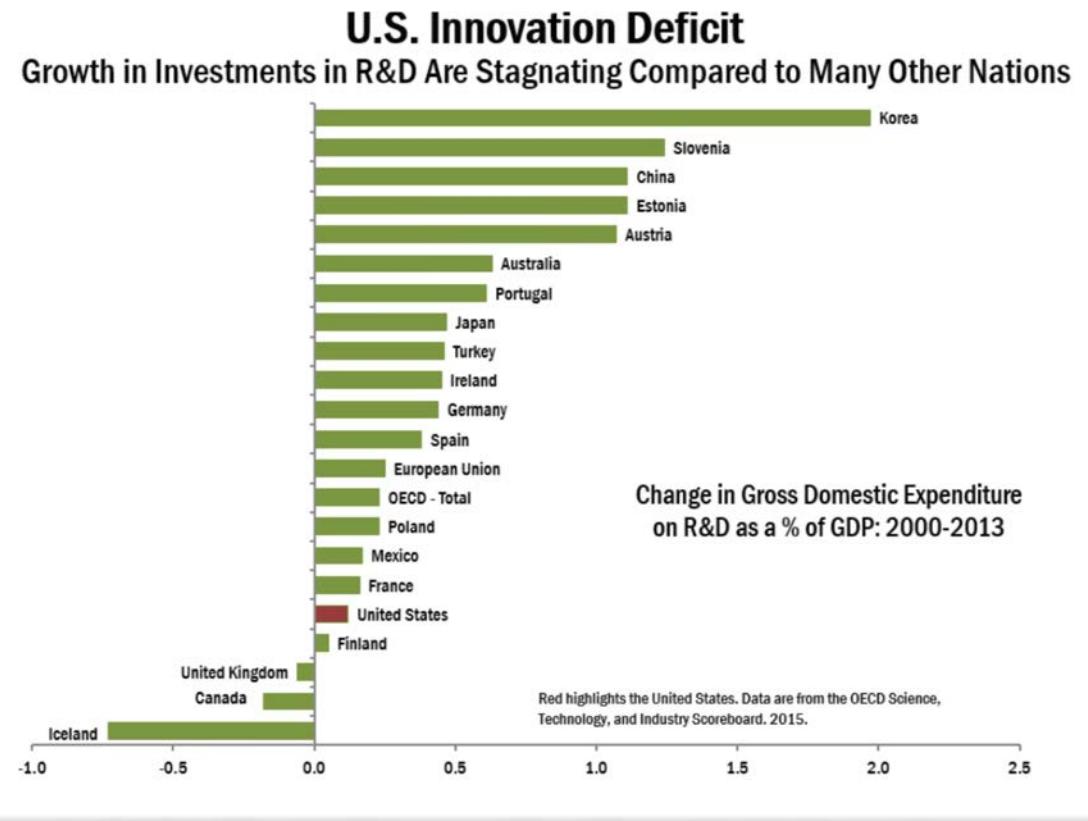


<http://www.innovationdeficit.org>



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Growth in Investment in R&D





Status of Trump's Nominations

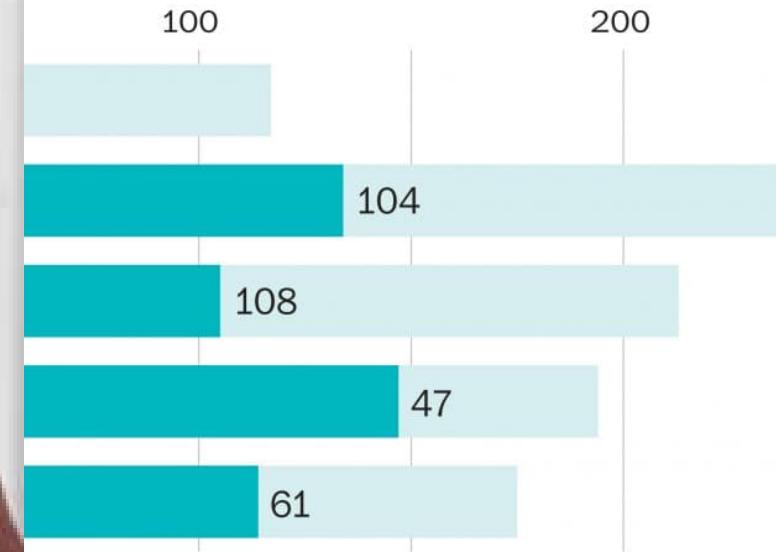
- Of 577 key positions require Senate confirmation, 354 are without a nominee. Of 117 have been confirmed.
- Very few key science positions nominated.
- Yet to fill...
 - OSTP Director
 - NIST Director
 - NOAA Director

No one is home?



hind at filling Senate-confirmable positions at s, a new analysis as of June 23 shows.

Senate, but not yet confirmed



and holdovers from previous administrations are excluded.

ce

KEVIN UHRMACHER/THE WASHINGTON POST



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Legislative Productivity

55 Bills signed

- Many reverse Obama policies
- Failed to Pass Health Care
- No major bills passed

Yet to do:

- Budget Resolution
- Debt Ceiling
- Harvey Relief
- Tax Reform
- Appropriations
- Infrastructure???



...and then
there is
Twitter!

Budget



Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump

A budget that puts #AmericaFirst must make safety its no. 1 priority—without safety there can be no prosperity: 45.wh.gov/NF9wr4

RETWEETS 5,917 LIKES 27,503

8:52 AM - 16 Mar 2017 9.9K 5.9K 28K

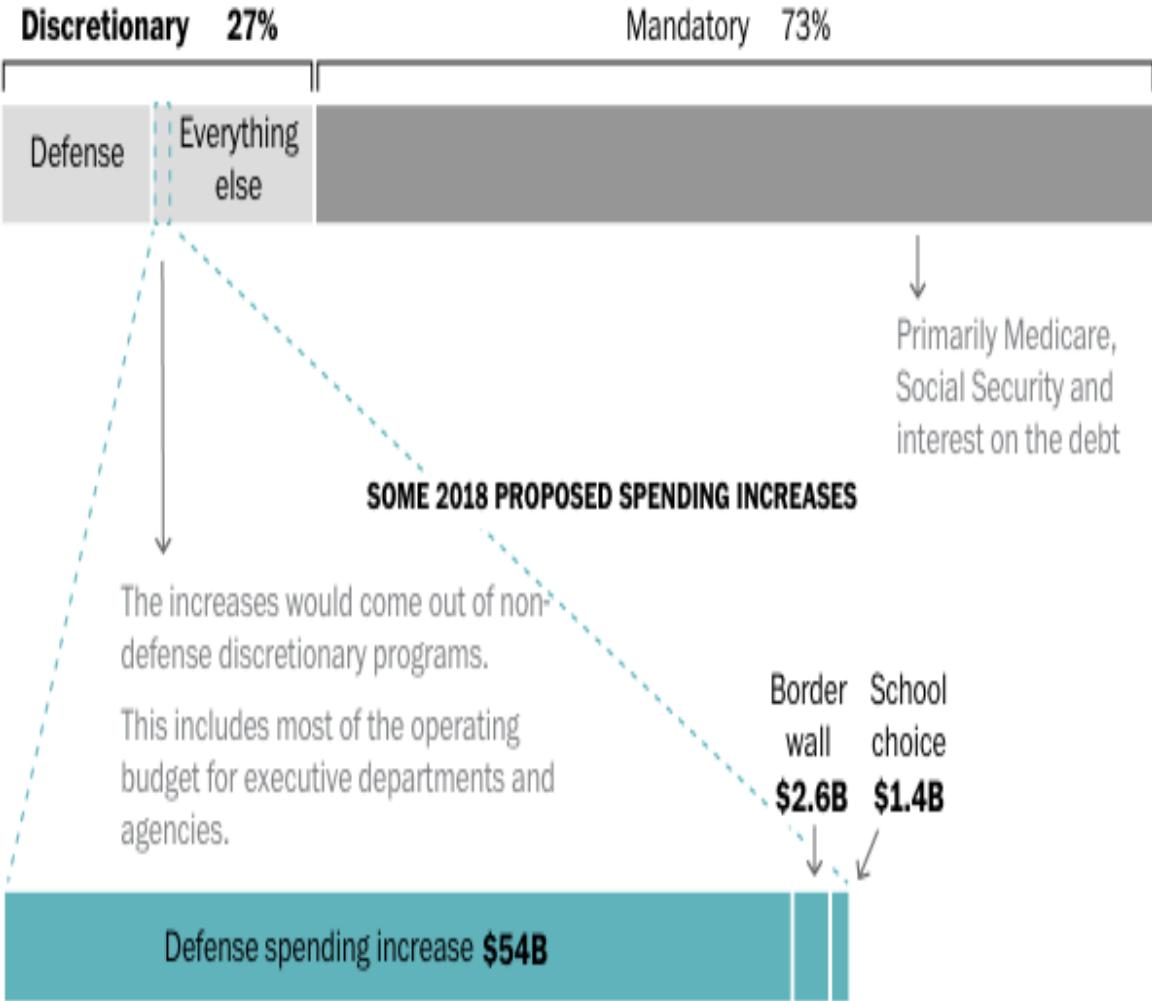


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Budget



2017 FEDERAL BUDGET, RELEASED IN 2016

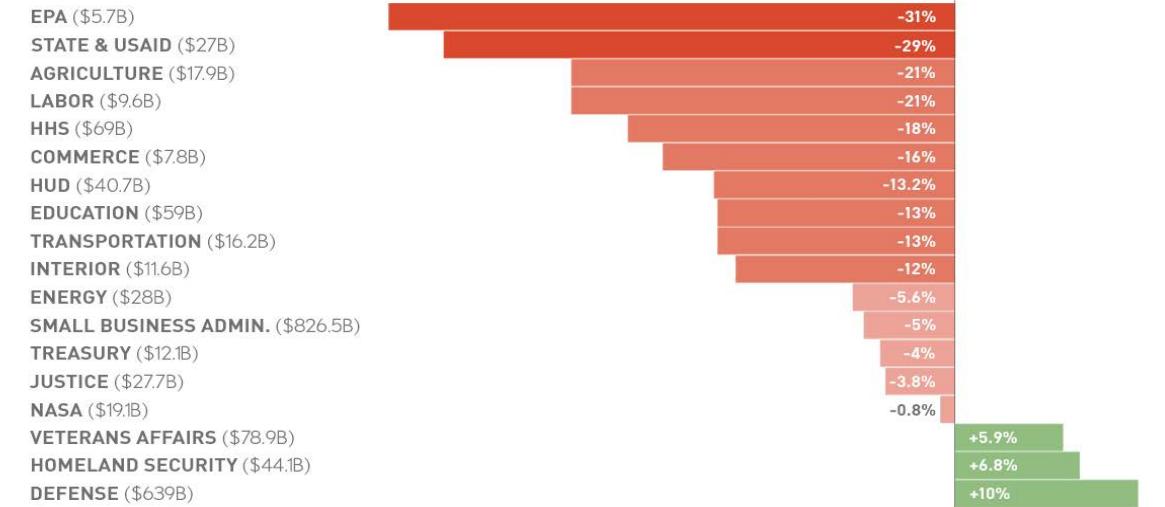


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Impact on Science

- Cuts to science much deeper than expected
- Over 20% cut to NIH
 - Included were F&A and Salary Caps
- NSF Cut by 11%
- 5.6% cut to DOE
 - 17% cut to Office of Science
 - ARPA-E eliminated
- EPA cut by one-third (31%)
 - Office of R&D cut in half
- 16% cut to Commerce (\$7.8B)
 - NOAA Research cut in half
 - NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership zeroed out
- NASA cut by 0.8%
- No increases for DOD Basic Research

BREAKING DOWN TRUMP'S FIRST PROPOSED BUDGET



SOURCE: OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

NINA LIN/NBC



THERE IS
STILL HOPE...





It is the duty of the President to propose and it is
the privilege of the Congress to dispose.

(Franklin D. Roosevelt)

Key Budget & Policy Issues

- F&A Cap
- NIH Salary Cap
- Fetal Tissue & hESC Research
- ARPA-E
- Applied Energy & Climate Research
- NEH & NEA
- Immigration
- Regulatory Reform
- Govt-Univ Partnership

