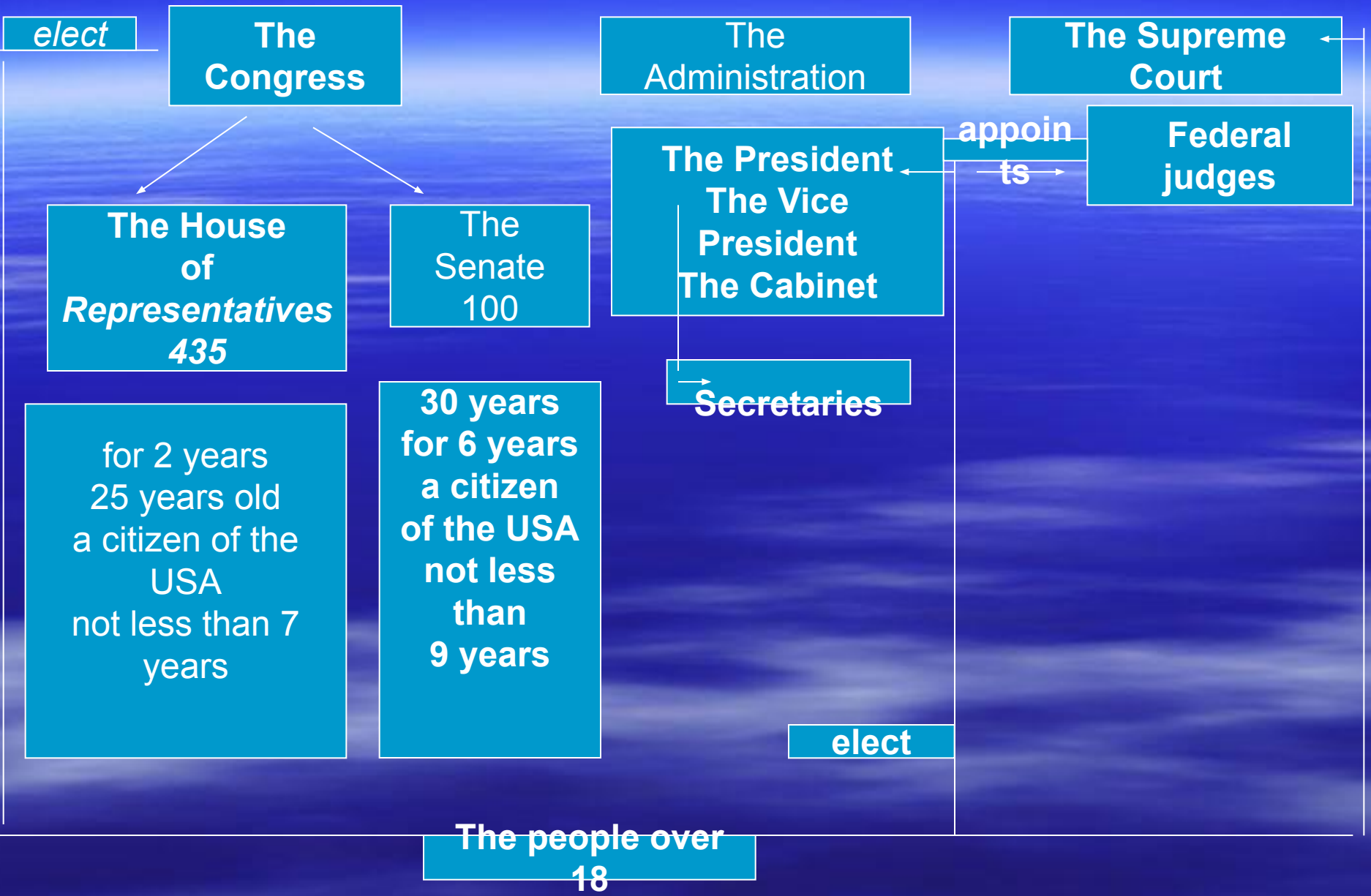


# The political system of the USA.



- The United States of America is a presidential republic. The head of state is the President. Now it is Barack Obama.

- There are three main branches of power in the USA: the legislative, the executive and the judicial.
- The legislative branch of power makes laws and executive exercises laws.





- The legislative branch of power in the USA is the Congress. It consists of the House of Representatives and the Senate. The people over 18 elect the Congress.



- There are 435 members in the House of Representatives. They are elected for 2 years. Members of the House of Representatives should be not younger than 25 years old and should be citizens of the USA not less than 7 years.

- There are 100 members in the Senate. They should be not younger than 30 years old and should be citizens of the USA not less than 9 years. Members of the Senate are elected for 6 years.



- The executive branch of power is the Administration. There is the President, the Vice President and the Cabinet in the Administration. Secretaries in the Cabinet are responsible for most important departments. The President appoints secretaries.



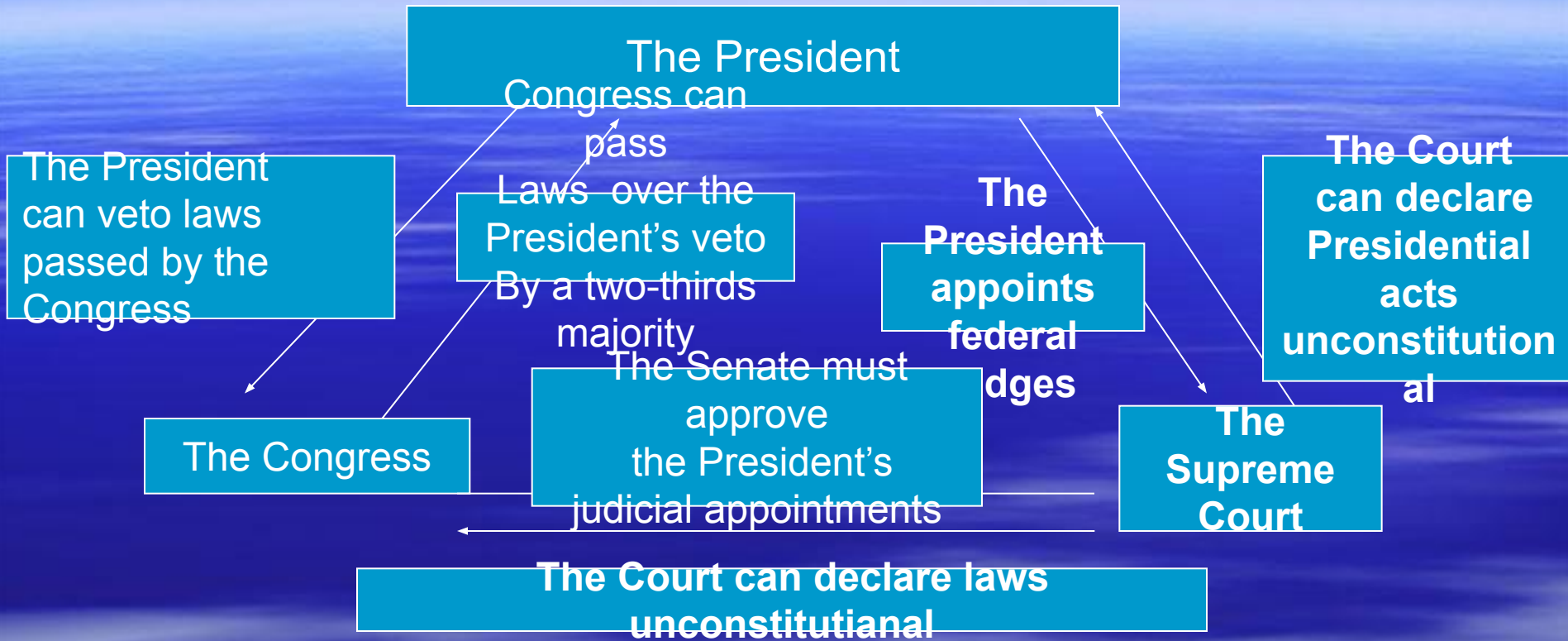


- The head of the executive branch of power is the President. He appoints secretaries. The President should be not younger than 35 years old. He also should be a citizen of the USA not less than 14 years. The President is elected for 4 years by the people over 18.



- The judicial branch of power is the Supreme Court. The President appoints federal judges. The judicial branch of power is much more powerful than in some other countries. It is involved in the system of checks and balances.

# The system of checks and balances



- The Congress passes laws. But the President can veto laws passed by the Congress. The Supreme Court can declare presidential acts unconstitutional. The Congress can pass laws over the President's veto by a two-thirds of majority. The Supreme Court can declare laws unconstitutional. The Senate must approve the President's judicial appointments.