

**Executive Branch Poster Challenge**

Using the *North Carolina's Executive Branch* poster, work in small groups to find answers to the questions below.

1. Which article of the North Carolina Constitution outlines the executive branch? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What are the qualifications to be the Governor of North Carolina?

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3. Which of the following **best describes** the term length for the North Carolina Governor?

- a. The Governor serves a 2-year term and can serve an unlimited number of terms.
- b. The Governor serves a 4-year term and can only serve two terms.
- c. The Governor serves a 4-year term and can serve an unlimited number of terms.
- d. The Governor serves a 4-year term and can only serve for two consecutive terms.

4. Who appoints members of the Cabinet? \_\_\_\_\_

5. TRUE or FALSE: The Lieutenant Governor serves as the president of the state Senate and can vote on all bills just like other members of the Senate. (If FALSE, change statement to make it TRUE)

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6. Members of the Governor's Cabinet and the Council of State are both responsible for overseeing executive departments. What is the biggest difference between these two groups?

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7. If I want to write a letter of complaint about the presence of pesticides on vegetables, which member of the Council of State would I write to?

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8. What is an example of a state board that has regulatory authority?

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**Extra Credit:** The Governor in the North Carolina Constitution has the power to grant reprieves and pardons. What is the difference between a reprieve and a pardon?

**Executive Branch Poster Challenge**  
**ANSWER KEY**

1. Which article of the North Carolina Constitution outlines the executive branch? Article III
2. What are the qualifications to be the Governor of North Carolina? At least 30 years old/ a US Citizen for at least 5 years/ and a NC resident for at least 2 years immediately prior to the election.
3. Which of the following **best describes** the term length for the North Carolina Governor?
  - a. The Governor serves a 2-year term and can serve an unlimited number of terms.
  - b. The Governor serves a 4-year term and can only serve two terms.
  - c. The Governor serves a 4-year term and can serve an unlimited number of terms.
  - d. The Governor serves a 4-year term and can only serve for two consecutive terms.
4. Who appoints members of the Cabinet? The Governor
5. TRUE or FALSE: The Lieutenant Governor serves as the president of the state Senate and ~~can vote on all bills just like other members of the Senate.~~ (If FALSE, change statement to make it TRUE) and can only vote in the event of a tie.
6. Members of the Governor's Cabinet and the Council of State are both responsible for overseeing executive departments. What is the biggest difference between these two groups?  
The Cabinet is appointed by the Governor while the Council of State is elected by NC citizens.
7. If I want to write a letter of complaint about the presence of pesticides on vegetables, which member of the Council of State would I write to? Commissioner of Agriculture
8. What is an example of a state board that has regulatory authority? State Board of Elections; NC Board for Licensing of Geologists; Board of Transportation

**Extra Credit:** The Governor in the North Carolina Constitution has the power to grant reprieves and pardons. What is the difference between a reprieve and a pardon? A reprieve postpones a court sentence. A pardon is the forgiveness of a crime and the penalty associated with it.

**\*\*TEACHER NOTE:**

**As a result of new 2011 legislation, the following items under "Governor's Cabinet" need to be updated on your Executive Branch poster. Please ensure students understand these recent changes:**

- Remove Secretary of Correction, Crime Control and Public Safety and Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
- Add Secretary of Public Safety - "Oversees state law enforcement, emergency management, corrections and juvenile justice programs"
- Amend Secretary of Commerce to say "Leads the state's business and industry development efforts and provides information and support to employers and employees"