



# ROSSMOOR NEWS

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## Republican Perspective

*By Irene Baroni*

“We Can’t Wait for Congress”

At the University of Colorado, President Obama told students, “We can’t wait for Congress to do their job, so they won’t act, I will. I told my administration, we’re going to look every single day to see what we can do without Congress.” He also said: “I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of the president of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

Our president is instead creating and ignoring laws at will. Perhaps he has no allegiance to the oath he swore. Perhaps he lacks respect for the United States Constitution. Perhaps he has his own agenda. The New York Times reported that before he was elected he uttered these words, “We are five days away from fundamentally transforming the United States of America.” Well then, perhaps all of the above apply.

Let’s take a look at the executive powers in the United States Constitution. In section one, the constitution describes the qualifications, term of years, the election process, and the oath. The second section states: “The president shall be commander in chief of the Army and Navy of the United States... and he shall have the power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.”

Does this include instructing the attorney general not to prosecute the New Black Panthers for obstructing voting and threatening voters? But let’s continue. “He shall have power, by and with the consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, and other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law: but the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers, as they think proper, in the president alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments...”

President Obama has been amassing unconstitutional executive power by avoiding the Senate confirmation and/or Congressional vestment required. He has appointed a

record-breaking number of 32 czars: Afghanistan czar; AIDS czar; auto recovery czar; border czar; California water czar; car czar; central region czar; climate czar; domestic violence czar; drug czar; economic czar; energy and environment czar; faith-based czar; government performance czar; Great Lakes czar; green jobs czar; Guantanamo closure czar; health czar; information czar; intelligence czar; Mideast peace czar; regulatory czar; science czar (confirmed by Senate 2009); stimulus accountability czar; Sudan czar; TARP czar; technology czar; terrorism czar; urban affairs czar; weapons czar; WMD policy czar.

Section three states, “He shall from time to time give Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them... he shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed...”

So let’s look at just a small piece of President Obama’s record. By executive order, he established a series of programs that enable those with mortgage or student loan debt to refinance to easier terms and repayment plans, saying that this action was necessary because Congress blocked his jobs proposal. He issued an order in June allowing illegal immigrants aged 30 and younger, who arrived when they were under the age of 16, to get a two-year deferral of deportation, and a work permit. He directed officials to stop detaining illegals arrested for lesser crimes. The president waved the Obamacare cap on a patient’s annual out-of-pocket expenses, and decreed a one-year exemption for selected health insurers that is nowhere permitted in the law. He directed a 70 percent subsidy for premiums paid by congressmen and their staffs, under a law that denies subsidies for anyone who is well-off. Equally lawless was the suspension of the Obamacare employer mandate. There are now reports that President Obama is considering 19 executive orders on gun control.

There are more cases of gross executive usurpation associated with President Obama. He seems untroubled with re-writing our constitution, and proud of it. The point is not what we think of the DREAM Act that Congress refused to pass, and President Obama authorized to gain Hispanic votes just before the election, or of the administration’s directive to do away with mandatory drug sentences. The issue is whether or not we want a rule-by-decree leader. However, we cannot lay all the blame at the president’s feet. The Senate and Congress that we elected bear much of the responsibility, along with many of us, who would rather complain about triviality than tyranny.

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