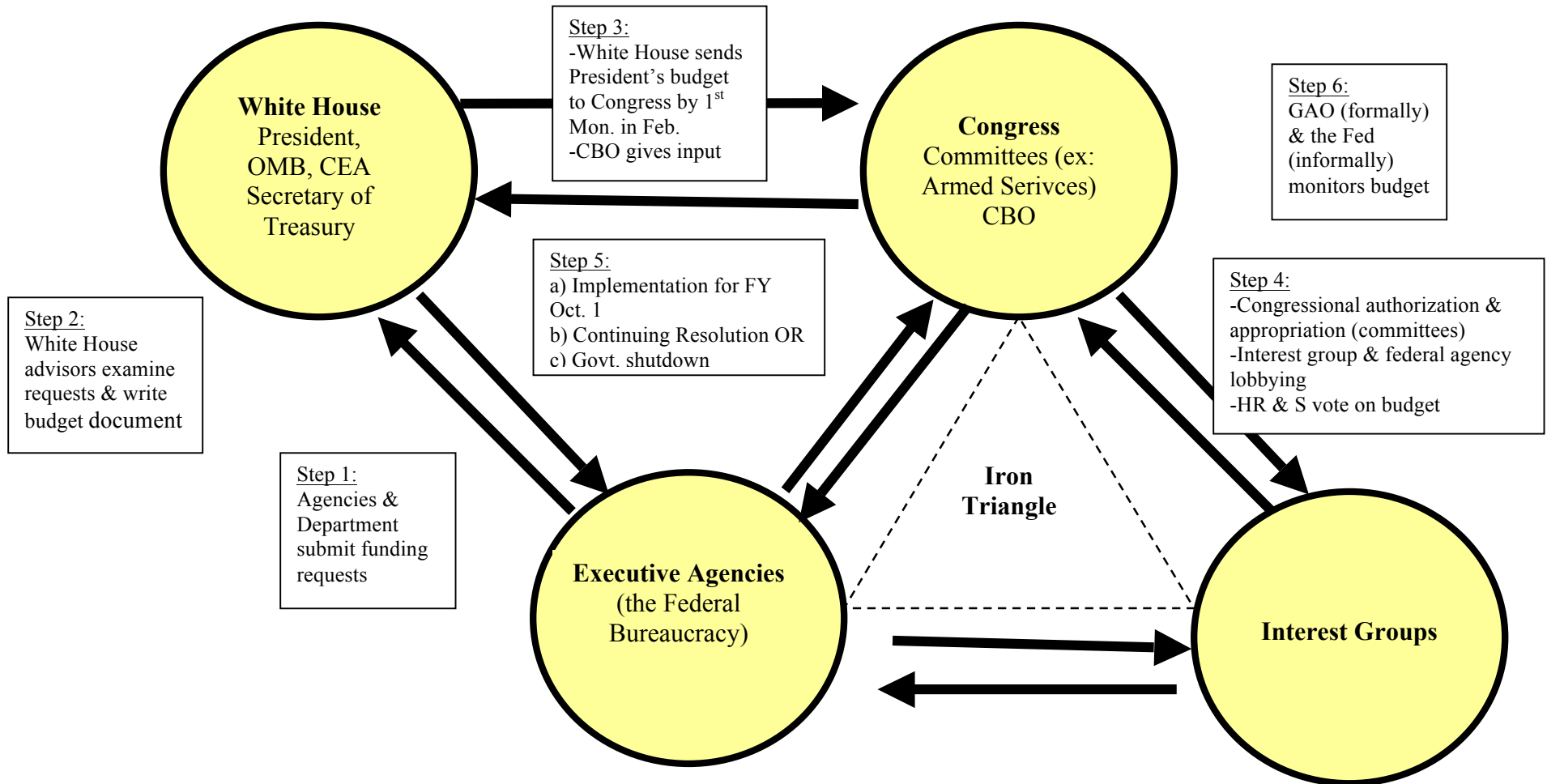


# Budget Process



## Role of politics in the budget process?:

1. Political ideology of President & Congress (liberal – bigger gov, social spending, higher taxes if needed; conservative – cut taxes, size of gov, limit spending on social programs)
2. Federal agencies & depts. Attempt to influence White House w/ their own budget priorities
3. Iron Triangle – interest groups (ex: Boeing), executive agencies (ex: DOD), lobby Congressional Committee (Armed Services)
4. Individual Congressmen want “earmarks” or “pork projects” funded in the budget
5. President’s campaign promises (ex: cut spending, lower taxes, fix Social Security, fund Prescription drugs for seniors, etc.)
6. Separation of Powers conflict between Pres & Congress w/ re: to budget priorities (Gov shutdown in '95)