Data Codebook: Variable Names, Labels, Definitions, and Data Sources

("Executive Deference or Legislative Constraint?
Senate Committees and the Exercise of Decentralized Authority
over U.S. Executive Nominations")

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1. **Revised Public Nomination Number**
    a. ***revised_pnumber***
    b. The Public Nomination number for each case
    c. Created by the authors to merge data with Ostrander (2016)
    d. Obtained by the authors (www.congress.gov) (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
2. **Nominee**
    a. ***nominee***
    b. Name of the nominee
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Obtained by the authors (www.congress.gov) (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
3. **Agency**
    a. ***agency***
    b. Name of the agency, department, or board to which the nominee was nominated
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Obtained by the authors (www.congress.gov) (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
4. **KBAgency**
    a. ***kbagency***
    b. Name of the agency, department, or board to which the nominee was nominated which has been corrected for different spellings, typos, etc.
    c. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023

5. **Position**
    a. ***position***
    b. Name of the office, position, or title to which the nominee was nominated
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
6. **Appointment Level**
    a. ***aptlevel***
    b. A categorical classification of positions to which nominees have been nominated
        i. Cabinet Level
            1. Secretaries, cabinet level positions, and Attorney General
        ii. Deputy Cabinet Secretary
            1. Deputy Secretaries, Under Secretary
        iii. Director/Administrator
            1. Title is Director or Administrator
        iv. Assistant Secretary
            1. Title is Assistant Secretary or Assistant Attorney General
        v. Under Secretary
            1. Title is Under Secretary or Associate Attorney General
        vi. Member, Commissioner
            1. Members of boards or commissions (includes chairs)
        vii. Inspector General
            1. Title is Inspector General
        viii. Counsel
            1. Title is General/Special counsel, Solicitor of Labor, Solicitor General, Legal Advisor
        ix. Technical Positions
            1. Controllers, Comptrollers, Chief Scientists, Science Advisors, members, Chief of Protocol, Chief Financial Officer, Council of Economic Advisors, and the Council of Environmental Quality
        x. U.S. Attorney
            1. All U.S. Attorney positions (excluding Attorney Generals and their assistants)
        xi. Low-Level Position
            1. Deputy Administrator, Deputy Director, Special Assistant, Deputy Undersecretaries, Associate Deputy Secretary, Deputy Advisors, Special Trustees
        xii. Other
            1. Bankers, Public Printers, Trade Representatives, Offices that do not fit other categories

c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
    i. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination and utilizing the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016)
e. Obtained August 25, 2023

7. **Tier**
    a. ***tier***
    b. A short categorical classification of positions to which nominees have been nominated
        i. 0 = Lowest Level (aptlevel = 11, 12)
        ii. 1 = Cabinet Level (aptlevel = 1)
        iii. 2 = High Level (aptlevel = 2, 3, 4, 5)
        iv. 3 = Major Board (aptlevel = 6 and appointment to a major board)
        v. 4 = Low Level (aptlevel = 6 and appointment is not a major board, 7, 8, 9, 10)
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This is obtained by utilizing **aptlevel** and the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016)
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
8. **Female**
    a. ***female***
    b. Binary indicator for whether the nominee was female
        i. 1 = female
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This variable was created utilizing the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016). We utilized the nominee's name and the nominee's name with their position to determine if the nominee was female
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
9. **Major Board**
    a. ***major_board***
    b. Binary indicator for whether the entity to which the nominee was nominated was a major board or commission
        i. 1 = major board
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This variable was created utilizing the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016)

ii. Major boards are either of the following: Consumer Product Safety Commission, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Federal Communications Commission, Federal Election Commission, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Federal Reserve Board of Governors, Federal Trade Commission, Interstate Commerce Commission, National Labor Relations Board, National Transportation Safety Board, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

e. Obtained August 25, 2023

10. **Year**
    a. ***year***
    b. Identifies the year in which the nomination occurred
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching for executive nominees within the nomination database
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
11. **Congress**
    a. ***congress***
    b. Identifies the congress in which the nomination occurred
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching for executive nominees within the nomination database
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
12. **President**
    a. ***president***
    b. Nominating president's name
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. Corresponds to the president that was in office at the time of the nomination
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
13. **Workload**
    a. ***workload***
    b. Corresponds to the number of Senate roll call votes in the month of the nomination
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023

14. **Date of Nomination**
    a. ***nomdate***
    b. Date that the Senate received nomination from the president
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching for executive nominees within the nomination database
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
15. **Date of Last Action**
    a. ***datelast***
    b. Date that the Senate took final action
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching for executive nominees within the nomination database
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
16. **First 90 Days**
    a. ***first90***
    b. Binary indicator for whether a nomination was within the first 90 days of an administration
        i. 1 = nomination occurred within the first 90 days of an administration
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. Calculated by determining the 90th day of a new administration and comparing it to the nomination date of each nominee
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
17. **Committee**
    a. ***Committee***
    b. Corresponds to the name of the committee to which the nomination was initially referred
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching for executive nominees within the nomination database
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
18. **Senate – President Divided**
    a. ***sendivide***
    b. Binary indicator for whether the nomination was issued during a period where the Senate and the presidency are not controlled by the same party

i. 1 = divided Senate and president
ii. 0 = otherwise

c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
i. This variable is created by utilizing information from the Senate (https://www.senate.gov/history/partydiv.htm)
e. Obtained August 25, 2023

19. **Republican President**
a. ***reprez***
b. Binary indicator for whether the president was a Republican
i. 1 = republican president
ii. 0 = otherwise
c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
i. Created by observing the political party of the nominating president
e. Obtained August 25, 2023

20. **Lame Duck**
a. ***lameduck***
b. Binary indicator for whether the president was within their 2nd term of an administration
i. 1 = 2nd term of an administration
ii. 0 = otherwise
c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
i. Created by examining the congress that nomination occurred in
e. Obtained August 25, 2023

21. **Presidential Election Year**
a. ***preselection***
b. Binary indicator for whether it was a presidential election year
i. 1 = presidential election year
ii. 0 = otherwise
c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
i. Created by examining the year of the nomination
e. Obtained August 25, 2023

22. **Presidential Approval**
a. ***pres_app_m***
b. Corresponds to the average presidential approval for the month of the nomination
c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)

        i. Presidential approval from Gallup. Obtained from (https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/statistics/data/presidential-job-approval-all-data)
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
23. **Polarization**
    a. ***polarization***
    b. Corresponds to the absolute difference in mean scores of the Democratic and Republican Party (Senate) along the first dimension within each Congress
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
24. **Infrastructure**
    a. ***infrastructure***
    b. Binary indicator for whether the nomination was an appointment to an agency related to national infrastructure
        i. 1 = infrastructure agency
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This variable was created utilizing the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016)
        ii. Agencies related to national infrastructure: Departments of Transportation, Energy, and Interior
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
25. **Social**
    a. ***social***
    b. Binary indicator for whether the nomination was an appointment to an agency related to social welfare programs
        i. 1 = social welfare program agency
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
        i. This variable was created utilizing the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016)
        ii. Agencies related to social welfare programs: Health, Education, Housing and Urban Development, Health Education & Welfare, Health and Human Services, Social Security Administration, Veterans Affairs
    e. Obtained August 25, 2023
26. **Defense**
    a. ***defense***
    b. Binary indicator for whether the nomination was an appointment to an agency related to defense

i. 1 = defense agency
ii. 0 = otherwise

c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
i. This variable was created utilizing the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016)
ii. Agencies related to defense: Department of Defense, Homeland Security, CIA
e. Obtained August 25, 2023

27. **x_itier_1**
a. **x_itier_1**
b. Binary indicator for Tier level 1
i. 1 = tier level 1
ii. 0 = otherwise
c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
i. This variable was created utilizing the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016)
e. Obtained August 25, 2023

28. **x_itier_2**
a. **x_itier_2**
b. Binary indicator for Tier level 2
i. 1 = tier level 2
ii. 0 = otherwise
c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
i. This variable was created utilizing the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016)
e. Obtained August 25, 2023

29. **x_itier_3**
a. **x_itier_3**
b. Binary indicator for Tier level 3
i. 1 = tier level 3
ii. 0 = otherwise
c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
i. This variable was created utilizing the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016)
e. Obtained August 25, 2023

30. **x_itier_4**
a. **x_itier_4**
b. Binary indicator for Tier level 4
i. 1 = tier level 4

ii. 0 = otherwise

c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
d. Created by the authors (112th – 117th Congress)
    i. This variable was created utilizing the coding scheme from Ostrander (2016)
e. Obtained August 25, 2023

31. **Civilian Nominations**
    a. ***kv_workload***
    b. Corresponds to the number of civilian nominations within a given year
    c. Obtained from (https://www.senate.gov/legislative/ResumesofCongressionalActivity1947present.htm)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
32. **Date a Nomination was Referred to a Committee**
    a. ***referredtocommittee***
    b. Corresponds to the date that a nomination was referred to a committee
    c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
33. **Date a Nomination was Reported out of a Committee**
    a. ***reportoutcommittee***
    b. Corresponds to the date that a nomination was reported out of a committee
    c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
34. **Final Date of Committee Action on a Nomination**
    a. ***finalcommitteedate***
    b. Corresponds to the final date that a nomination received action in a committee
    c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
35. **Legislative Vetting Duration**
    a. ***legvetdur***
    b. Corresponds to the number of days that transpired between when a nomination was referred to a committee and when it was reported out of a committee
    c. Created by the authors
36. **Legislative Vetting Duration 2**
    a. ***legvet2***
    b. Corresponds to the number of days that transpired between when a nomination was referred to a committee and the final action taken by a committee

c. Created by the authors

37. **Political Vetting Duration**
    a. ***polvetdur***
    b. Corresponds to the number of days that transpired between the date that the nomination was reported out of committee and the confirmation date
    c. Created by the authors
38. **Political Vetting Duration 2**
    a. ***polvet2***
    b. Corresponds to the number of days that transpired between the date that the nomination was reported out of committee and the final action taken by a committee
    c. Created by the authors
39. **Nominations Ended by Rule 31**
    a. ***rule31***
    b. Binary indicator for whether a nominee was terminated by Senate Rule 31
        i. 1 = terminated by Senate rule 31
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
40. **Nominations Ended by Sine Die Adjournment**
    a. ***sinedieadjourment***
    b. Binary indicator for whether a nominee was terminated by sine die adjournment
        i. 1 = ended by sine die adjournment
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
41. **Withdrawn Nominations**
    a. ***withdrawn***
    b. Binary indicator for whether a nominee was withdrawn by the president prior to confirmation (NOT RULE 31 CASES)
        i. 1 = ended by withdrawn by president
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
42. **Privileged Nominations**
    a. ***privileged***

b. Binary indicator for whether the nominee was a privileged nominee, which did not have to go through the committee process
    i. 0 = not a privileged nomination
    ii. 1 = privileged nomination that went through the committee process
    iii. 2 = privileged nomination that did not go through the committee process
c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
d. Obtained August 25, 2023

43. **Nominations that Received a Discharge from the Committee**
    a. ***commdischarge***
    b. Binary indicator for whether a nominee was discharged from a committee by a discharge petition
        i. 1 = discharged from committee by a discharge petition
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
44. **Nomination Returned to the President**
    a. ***returnedtopresident***
    b. Binary indicator for whether a nominee was returned to the president (NOT RULE 31 OR WITHDRAWN)
        i. 1 = ended by being returned to the president
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
45. **Nomination Defeated by Floor Vote**
    a. ***Defeatedbyvote***
    b. Binary indicator for whether a nominee was defeated by a floor vote in the Senate
        i. 1 = ended by defeat by a floor vote
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
46. **Confirmation Binary**
    a. ***confirmbinary***
    b. Binary indicator for whether the nomination was successfully confirmed
        i. 1 = confirmed

ii. 0 = otherwise

c. This is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination

d. Obtained August 25, 2023

47. **Senate Committees by Numeric Values**

a. ***kbcom_1***

b. A numeric variable that corresponds to each Senate committee

c. Created by the authors

i. Information on the unique committee that each nominee was referred to is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination

d. Obtained August 25, 2023

48. **Senate Committees by String Values**

a. ***committeeagg***

b. Corresponds to the actual name of each Senate committee

c. Created by the authors

i. Information on the unique committee that each nominee was referred to is obtained by examining the unique information for each nominee on www.congress.gov by searching within the nomination database with the nominee's name and year/congress of nomination

d. Obtained August 25, 2023

49. **Size of Committee Staff**

a. **committeestaffsize**

b. Corresponds to the number of staffers on each committee within each year

c. Obtained from the Congressional Research Service (https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R43946)

i. For the year 2019, the Senate did not publish a directory, therefore, the year 2019 is missing from the CRS report. For 2019, we utilized the Congressional Yellow Book (Spring, Summer, and Winter) to obtain the number of staffers that were on each committee

d. Obtained August 25, 2023

50. **Federal Vacancies Reform Act**

a. **fvra**

b. This is a binary variable that indicates whether the agency was impacted by the Federal Vacancies Act of 1998. This variable equal 1 if the FVRA covered/applied to the positions within a given agency and 0, otherwise.

c. Information collected from various sources by the authors

d. (https://www.gao.gov/legal/other-legal-work/federal-vacancies-reform-act)

e. Obtained August 25, 2023

51. **First Recess**

a. **firstrecess**

b. Binary indicator for whether the nomination occurred in July or August of each year
    i. 1 = nomination occurred in July or August
    ii. 0 = otherwise
c. Created by the authors utilizing the date of the nomination

52. **Second Recess**
    a. **secondrecess**
    b. Binary indicator for whether the nomination occurred in November or December of each year
        i. 1 = nomination occurred in November or December
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Created by the authors utilizing the date of the nomination
53. **Committee Bills**
    a. **combills_workload**
    b. Corresponds to the number of bills that were referred to each committee during each congress
    c. Information on the number of bills that were referred to each committee is obtained by examining the unique committee/congress information on www.congress.gov by searching within the legislation database
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
54. **Log Committee Bills**
    a. **ln_combills_workload**
    b. Corresponds to the log number of bills that were referred to each committee during each congress
    c. Created by the authors
55. **Presidential Indicator**
    a. presrev
    b. Categorical variable that corresponds to each president within our time span
        i. 1 = Reagan
        ii. 2 = Bush41
        iii. 3 = Clinton
        iv. 4 = Bush43
        v. 5 = Obama
        vi. 6 = Trump
    c. Created by the authors based on year
56. **Median Committee Experience**
    a. ***experience_median***
    b. Corresponds to the median experience, in years, on a Senate committee
    c. Created by the authors with information obtained from various sources. We utilized biographical information found in the member database within www.congress.gov. Additionally, we utilized biographical information from http://bioguide.congress.gov. Lastly, we utilized the congressional record and directories to establish committee membership, which can be found in the

congressional records databased on www.congress.gov and committee membership on https://www.senate.gov/committees/history.htm.

d. Obtained August 25, 2023

57. **Chair Experience**
    a. ***chair_experience_1***
    b. Corresponds to the experience, in years, of the Senate committee chairperson
    c. Created by the authors with information obtained from various sources. We utilized biographical information found in the member database within www.congress.gov. Additionally, we utilized biographical information from http://bioguide.congress.gov. Lastly, we utilized the congressional record and directories to establish committee membership, which can be found in the congressional records databased on www.congress.gov and committee membership on https://www.senate.gov/committees/history.htm.
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
58. **Committee Chair Nominate Score**
    a. ***kbchairnominate***
    b. Corresponds to the 1st dimension nominate score of each chairperson for each Senate committee by Congress
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
59. **Median for 1st Dimension Nominate Committee Score**
    a. ***kbcommednominate***
    b. Corresponds to the median 1st dimension nominate score on each committee by Congress
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
60. **President Ideal Point**
    a. ***kbpresideo***
    b. Corresponds to the ideal point of the president computed from 1st dimension of nominate by Congress
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
61. **Absolute Distance between the Senate Committee Median and the President**
    a. ***committee_pres1***
    b. Corresponds to the absolute distance between the committee floor and the president computed from 1st dimension of nominate by Congress
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
62. **Absolute Distance between the Senate Committee Chair and the President**
    a. ***chair_pres1***
    b. Corresponds to the absolute distance between the committee chair and the president computed from 1st dimension of nominate by Congress
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)

d. Obtained August 25, 2023

63. **Senate Filibuster Pivot**
    a. ***kbfilipivot***
    b. The filibuster pivot for each nominee. This was created using the 60th Senator from the president's party under unified government, and the 60th member of the opposition's party under divided government. This measure was calculated for each nominee.
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
64. **Absolute Distance Between the President's Ideal Point and the Senate Median**
    a. ***pressenfilipivotabsdist***
    b. Corresponds to the absolute distance between the Senate filibuster pivot and the president's ideal point
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
65. **Nuclear Option**
    a. **nuclear_option**
    b. Binary variable that corresponds to the date (November 21, 2013) when the nuclear option was instituted for all executive nominee positions, expect for the Supreme Court, within the Senate
        i. 1 = nomination occurs after nuclear option
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Created by the authors with information obtained from the congressional records databased on www.congress.gov
    d. Obtained October 13, 2023
66. **Confirmation Trichotomy**
    a. **confirmtri**
    b. A categorical variable that corresponds to different levels of confirmation
        i. 0 = was not confirmed
        ii. 1 = Rule 31 nominees that went through the committee process
        iii. 2 = confirmed
    c. Created by the authors based on previously discussed nominee information
67. **Clinton-Lewis Agency Ideology**
    a. **kbclintonlewis**
    b. A categorical variable that indicates the ideology of the agency, based on the Clinton-Lewis agency ideology score for the agency in question
        i. -1 = liberal agency
        ii. 0 = moderate agency
        iii. 1 = conservative agency
    c. Obtained from Clinton and Lewis (2008)
68. **Presidential Party**
    a. **presparty**
    b. A binary indicator for whether the president is a Democrat

        i. 1 = democratic president
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Created by the authors based on the year of the nomination and the nominating president

69. **Ideological President Ally**
    a. **idpresally**
    b. A binary variable that indicates whether an agency is considered an ally of the current president
        i. 1 = republican president and conservative agency OR democratic president and liberal agency
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Created by the authors based on Clinton-Lewis Agency Ideology
70. **Ideological President Opposed**
    a. **idpresoppose**
    b. A binary variable that indicates whether an agency is considered opposition of the current president
        i. 1 = republican president and liberal agency OR democratic president and conservative agency
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Created by the authors based on Clinton-Lewis Agency Ideology
71. **ID**
    a. **id**
    b. Corresponds to a unique identification number for each nomination
    c. Created by the authors
72. **Reintroduced Rule 31 Nomination**
    a. **samecongnew**
    b. Binary indicator for whether a nomination was nominated previously, in the same congress, but was Rule 31
        i. 1 = nominee was previously nominated, in the same congress, but was Rule 31
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Created by the authors based on the nomination information discussed above
73. **Prior Confirmation**
    a. ***priorconfirm***
    b. Binary indicator for whether the nominee had a prior successful confirmation within the past 2 Congresses
        i. 1 = nominee had a prior successful confirmation within the past two Congresses
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    c. Obtained from Ostrander (2016)
    d. Created by the authors (112^{th} – 117^{th} Congress)
        i. Created based on the nomination information discussed above

74. **Senate Floor Median**
    a. ***kbsenmedian***
    b. Corresponds to the Senate floor median computed from 1st dimension of nominate by Congress
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023

75. **Absolute Distance Between the President's Ideal Point and the Senate Median**
    a. ***pressenfloorabsdist***
    b. Corresponds to the absolute distance between the Senate median and the president's ideal point
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
76. **Prior Senate Denial**
    a. ***denied***
    b. An indicator variable for whether a nominee has previously been nominated and denied confirmation
    c. 1 = previously nominated and denied confirmation
    d. 0 = otherwise
    e. Created by the authors from the data and information obtained by examining the unique nominee information on www.congress.gov
    f. Obtained August 25, 2023
77. **Ranking Member**
    a. ***rankingmember***
    b. Indicator variable for whether committee member is the ranking member of their committee
    c. 1 = ranking member
    d. 0 = otherwise
    e. Created by the authors with information obtained from various sources. We utilized biographical information found in the member database within www.congress.gov. Additionally, we utilized biographical information from http://bioguide.congress.gov. Lastly, we utilized the congressional record and directories to establish committee membership, which can be found in the congressional records databased on www.congress.gov and committee membership on https://www.senate.gov/committees/history.htm.
    f. Obtained August 25, 2023
78. **Absolute Distance Between Ranking Member and President**
    a. ***absdiffrankingmember***
    b. Corresponds to the absolute distance between the committee ranking member and the president computed from 1st dimension of nominate by Congress
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023

79. **Absolute Distance Between Majority Party Median and President**
    a. ***absdiffmajmedian***
    b. Corresponds to the absolute distance between the majority party committee median ideology and the president computed from 1st dimension of nominate by Congress
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
80. **Absolute Distance Between Minority Party Median and President**
    a. ***absdiffminmedian***
    b. Corresponds to the absolute distance between the minority party committee median ideology and the president computed from 1st dimension of nominate by Congress
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023
81. **Absolute Distance Between Distal Member and President**
    a. ***absdiffdistalmember***
    b. Corresponds to the absolute distance between the furthest committee ideology from the president and the president computed from 1st dimension of nominate by Congress
    c. Obtained from Jeff Lewis and Vote View (https://voteview.com/data)
    d. Obtained August 25, 2023

Variables Created within the Program Files

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82. **Agency Id**
    a. ***agency_id***
    b. This variable is an encoded version of the Agency variable
    c. Created by the authors
83. **Policy / Major Agency**
    a. ***policy_majagnecy***
    b. A binary indicator for whether an agency is a major policy related agency or not
    c. 1 = Majory Policy-Related Agencies
    d. 0 = Otherwise
    e. Created by the authors
84. **Legislative Vetting Duration 2 Plus 1**
    a. ***Legvetdur2plus1***
    b. Corresponds to the number of days that transpired between when a nomination was referred to a committee and the final action taken by a committee plus 1 extra day to provide one day occurring for all nominations that were introduced and passed through the committee process on the same day
    c. Created by the authors
85. **Absolute Distance Between the Senate Committee Median and President Group Mean**
    a. ***bSenComm_committee_pres1***
    b. Corresponds to the group means of the absolute distance between the Senate committee median and presidential ideal points for each committee
    c. Created by the authors
86. **Absolute Distance Between the Senate Committee Chair and President Group Mean**
    a. ***bSenComm_committee_chair1***
    b. Corresponds to the group means of the absolute distance between the Senate committee chair and presidential ideal points for each committee
    c. Created by the authors
87. **Absolute Distance Between the Senate Committee Median and President Group Mean Deviation**
    a. ***wSenComm_committee_pres1***
    b. Corresponds to the deviation between group means of the absolute distance between the Senate committee median and presidential ideal points for each committee
    c. Created by the authors
88. **Absolute Distance Between the Senate Committee Chair and President Group Mean Deviation**
    a. ***wSenComm_committee_chair1***

b. Corresponds to the deviation between group means of the absolute distance between the Senate committee chair and presidential ideal points for each committee
c. Created by the authors

Appendix C

89. **High Committee Delay Presidents**
    a. ***preshighcomdelay***
    b. An indicator variable for whether a president has "high" versus "low" committee delay
    c. 1 = Reagan, Bush 43, & Obama
    d. 0 = Bush 41, Clinton, & Trump
    a. Created by the authors

Appendix E

90. **Confirmation Binary Alternative**
    b. ***confirmbinaryalt***
    c. Binary indicator for whether the nomination was successfully confirmed. This variable was created from the Confirmation Trichotomy variable.
        i. 1 = confirmtri ≥ 1
        ii. 0 = otherwise
    d. Created by the authors

Appendix F

91. **Political Vetting Duration 2 Plus 1**
    e. ***polvetdur2plus1***
    f. Corresponds to the number of days that transpired between the date that the nomination was reported out of committee and the final action taken by a committee plus 1 extra day to provide one day occurring for all nominations that were passed through the committee process and passed the Senate floor on the same day

g. Created by the authors

92. **Total Confirmation Duration**

h. ***totvet2***

i. Corresponds to the total number of days of the entire confirmation process for a nominee. This variable is the sum of Legislative Vetting Duration 2 and Political Vetting Duration 2.

j. Created by the authors

93. **Total Confirmation Duration Plus 1**

k. ***totconfirmdurplus1***

l. Corresponds to the total number of days of the entire confirmation process for a nominee. This variable is the sum of Legislative Vetting Duration 2 and Political Vetting Duration 2 with the addition of one day.

m. Created by the authors