Welcome to GAP! Having exposure to the Constitution including its origins will assist your success in this class. Everything discussed in class and expected on the Spring AP Exam directly or indirectly relates to the “The Law of the Land” (aka The U.S Constitution).

The AP Government & Politics summer assignment consists of three parts:

**Part I:**
How the Original 13 States influenced the existing government system of Federalism

**Part II:**
Introduction to the Constitution/Constitution Review ● Complete the Constitution Scavenger Hunt using the United States Constitution to answer the questions. (Vocab words need to know too)

**Part III:**
Jumping into contemporary American government- Current Event Journal

YOU NEED TO DOWNLOAD THE SUMMER ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENT THAT IS ACCOMPANIES THIS ASSIGNMENT (A mini-document and customized U.S Constitution)

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**Part I: States Influence the U.S Constitution:**
Read: “How the First State Constitutions Helped Build the U.S Constitution.” Each paragraph has been numbered 1-44. When you come to the end of the article there are four questions that must be answered thoroughly.

**Instructions:**
1. Print out the 4-page document: read and annotate directly on the document to prepare 4 responses. (See Summer Assignment Documents)
2. PAPER MUST BE TYPED
3. PAPER must be ORGANIZED as follows:
   A. The QUESTION must restated exactly and be in BOLD type
   B. ANSWER must be your words, typed in regular NON-bold script
   C. Answer does NOT have to be in complete sentences; bullet/list format acceptable choice
   D. Using the paragraph number, identify where answer came from by citing the paragraphs relied in within/with your answers.

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**Part II: The U.S Constitution:**
Use Summer Assignment Documents attached hereto. The Constitution is organized as follows: Original part of the Constitution constitutes 7 Articles. In each Article there are parts and subparts. After Article VII you will see the Amendments. There are 27 in total. Amendments were added after the original Constitution. Answers to the Questions below are FOUND IN THE CONSTITUTION. When the question states AMENDMENT go to the part of the Constitution found AFTER Articles I-VII. For assistance, there is a blank page acting as a divider between the original (ratified in 1788) and the Amendments (on going changes/additions/deletions to the Original doc).

(a) The U.S Constitution. Introduction
Instructions for (a)
a. Print out *this* Constitution—it has been customized for this assignment/the class. For example look at Article I, Section 7. I added “(3 subsections)”. When you cite *this version of the Constitution you will type your response. Then cite Art.l, Sect.7, subsection iii). This way when we discuss in class we all know what paragraph, section, subsection etc. we are discussing.
b. **Read in order.** Everything involving the original Constitution was intentional including how the original sections (Articles I through VII) were organized.
c. Underlined words **must** be defined in YOUR OWN words. Apply my test (See * below) so you know my expectations.
d. For each Underlined word **provide an example** (real or hypothetical).

(b): Application of the *U.S Constitution: CONSTITUTION SCAVANGER HUNT!!!*
Instructions for (b):
  a. **Use this Constitution.**
  b. Complete the Constitution Scavenger Hunt: Answer the following Questions —**You MUST cite from this Constitution**— where you found the answer: include Article #, Section # and subsection.

**Example.**
Q: How many Senators does each State get to elect?
A: Each state *pursuant to Article I, Section 3,* elects two senators ensuring each state has equal voice in one of the houses.

**Your turn (be sure to cite where found in the Constitution):**
1. In your own words, what is the purpose of the Preamble?
2. What are the Constitutional Qualifications for House of Rep (HOR)?
3. What are the Constitutional Qualifications for Senate?
4. What are the differences in term limits between these two houses?
5. Go to the 17th Amendment—how did this affect Article I, Section 3?
6. What is significant about the words in brackets? Use your understanding of American History to help answer this. Look at (d.) immediately above as well. This will help you analyze and reach a solid answer.
7. How are the Senators organized? Why do you think the Framers intentionally set up this format?
8. Who is the President of the Senate? What is the *only* power the Senate President can exercise?
9. If a President is impeached, what is the *only* thing that can happen to POTUS?
10. How many Senators or Reps must agree to kick one of their own members out who has been accused of disorderly behavior?
11. If a bill is presented to POTUS by both the House and the Senate, how many days does POTUS have to veto the legislation? If POTUS does not act, what happens to the bill? Is there an exception? Explain.
12. How many Senators AND House members must repass a bill that has been vetoed by POTUS?
13. What is your understanding of the Necessary and Proper Clause (Article I, Section 8, subsection xvii). Provide an example for clear understanding.

14. Read Article I, Section 9, subsection i. Based on US History what “business” is the section of the Constitution addressing? If this “business” was in fact outlawed according to Article I, Section 9, how did the “business of ________” “legally” continue? What event happened to lead to the US in making this “business” abolish? Where in the Constitution do you find clarity that this “business” is not tolerated in the U.S? (Cite this version of the Constitution)

15. What is the Big Picture of Article I, Section 9?

16. Why did the framers state “no title of nobility” shall be allowed? See Article I, Section 9, subsection viii.

17. What does Section 10 of Article I do to the powers of the States? What Amendment strengthens the States’ power? What particular Amendment then limits States’ power?

18. Can a member of the Electoral College be a sitting Senator, HOR, Governor etc.? Why/why not?

19. What Amendment changed Article II, Section 1, subsection iii? Prior to this change, how was Vice President determined? What event happened that made the nation change this part of the Constitution?

20. Why can a person who becomes a citizen serve as a Senator or House Rep but cannot become President? Provide applicable cites from this Constitution.

21. What is “judicial review”? Where in the Constitution is judicial review inferred?

22. If a person is accused of treason, other than facts show treason, what is required for an actual conviction? (Cite this Constitution)

23. What is the big picture of Article IV (in other words what is the common denominator found with all sections?)

24. How many ways can the Constitution be amended? Explain the difference between “to propose” and “to ratify”? How does this Article ensure federalism? [To answer this you need to define and understand federalism.]

JUST IN CASE: The following are terms you should be familiar with—best to define in your own words and show understanding by creating an example (either real or hypothetical). Use your current events as an opportunity to become familiar and proficient (See Part III)

PREAMBLE  EMOLUMENT  OATH/AFFIRMATION
A REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT  REPRIEVES  NATURAL RIGHTS/INALIENABLE
PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES  PARDON  RIGHTS
QUORUM  COMMUTATIONS

PR E AMBLE  A REPUBLIC GOVERNM ENT
PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES  QUORUM
EMOLUMENT  EMOLUMENT
OATH/AFFIRMATION  OATH/AFFIRMATION
NATURAL RIGHTS/INALIENABLE
RIGHTS
CONTemporary Application of the Constitution

Part III Current Event Journal: Weekly current events journal of current national, political, and government events beginning the week of June 23rd and ending the week of August 18th.

- June 23 – June 29
- June 30 – July 6
- July 7 – July 13
- July 14 – July 20
- July 21 – July 27
- July 28 – August 3
- August 4–August 10
- August 11–August 17
- August 18–August 24

Directions and Instructions:
1. Choose any six weeks from above.
2. For each week, complete two journal entries. Six weeks – 2 entries each week – totals 12 entries in journal.
3. Each entry MUST be based on news from that day and entered in your own words. Ideally, your journal will be typed on Google Docs. If you do not have access to a computer, please write a handwritten journal (organized in one notebook/binder by date). NO COPYING and/or PASTING articles: will result in a ZERO for the assignment.
4. Each entry should include:
   a. Date of the newsworthy event of the week
   b. Headline
   c. One paragraph summary (at least 5 sentences) ** do not copy/paste story
   d. Source and citation of story (Please use the attached format for the Works Cited https://style.mla.org/files/2016/04/practice-template.pdf. (If you can play a video, here is a sample of how to do the Works Cited https://style.mla.org/works-cited-a-quick-guidevideo/)
   e. Briefly identify how the current event relates to one of the branches of government as outlined in the U.S Constitution.

- ACCEPTABLE SOURCES:
  ➢ National newspapers or their websites (Washington Post, NY Times, Economist, Wall Street Journal, CT Post, Hartford Courant)
  ➢ Websites of major news outlets (CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, BBC, Time)
- UNACCEPTABLE SOURCES: NO Blogs, NO personal websites, NO social media (Facebook, Snapchat...)
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT ME:

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text, email, call

AVAILABLE JUNE 27-THRU SUMMER

(OUT OF TOWN JUNE 8-JUNE 26)

ENJOY YOUR TIME OFF! LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING AND WORKING WITH YOU ALL!!!

GO SEA KINGS!
HOW THE FIRST STATE CONSTITUTIONS HELPED BUILD THE U.S. CONSTITUTION


1. After the Revolutionary War, delegates from the thirteen American states met at Philadelphia to draft a new constitution for the United States. They were unhappy with the weakness of the national government under the Articles of Confederation. But where did the delegates get their ideas for what became the U.S. Constitution?

2. The delegates understood England’s “unwritten constitution,” based on centuries of customs, rights, common law court decisions, and the acts of kings and Parliament. But these constitutional elements were sometimes ignored or violated by the king since there was no written guarantee that the monarch must obey them.

3. Closer to home, the delegates knew how their colonial governments had evolved from royal charters and land grants to a significant degree of self-rule. A majority of the delegates at the Constitutional Convention in 1787 also had been members of one or both of the Continental Congresses that met during the Revolutionary War. More importantly, most of them had been involved in debating and writing the constitutions for their own states. These first state constitutions proved to be the greatest source of ideas for drafting the U.S. Constitution and later the Bill of Rights.

First State Constitutions

Four colonies adopted constitutions even before the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed on July 4, 1776. After that date, all the colonies referred to themselves as states of the United States of America.

4. The states went about adopting constitutions in three ways. Eight states relied on their regularly elected colonial legislatures renamed “provincial congresses.” Three states elected delegates to a constitutional convention. Two states, Connecticut and Rhode Island, did not write new constitutions, but instead simply revised their colonial charters.

5. On January 5, 1776, New Hampshire’s provincial congress adopted the first state constitution. This constitution was intended to be a temporary fundamental law “during the present unhappy and unnatural contest with Great Britain.” It set up a basic structure of government but did not provide for a governor, bill of rights, or amending process. A state convention added these things in a second constitution adopted in 1784.

6. Massachusetts was the last of the states to write and adopt its first constitution. In 1778, the provincial congress submitted a draft constitution to the voters at town meetings, but they turned it down.

7. A convention was then elected specifically to draft a constitution. John Adams wrote most of it, which included a bill of rights. Massachusetts voters finally approved this constitution by the required two-thirds vote in 1780. This was the first time voters ratified a state constitution. It remains the world’s oldest written constitution still in effect.

8. Vermont was not recognized as a state at this time because the neighboring states disputed its boundaries. Nevertheless, in 1777, Vermonters met in a convention and adopted a constitution anyway. It was the first state constitution to prohibit slavery.
Building Blocks

A written constitution generally describes the structure of a government. It may also identify rights guaranteed to citizens. A written constitution is superior to all laws enacted by a legislature. For example, the U.S. Constitution declares itself to be “the supreme Law of the Land.”

By 1780, all the first state constitutions plus that of Vermont had created most of the building blocks that were used to draft the U.S. Constitution at the Philadelphia Convention in 1787.

Overridding Principles

All the states accepted the idea of “popular sovereignty.” This means that all the powers of government originally came from the people. Delaware’s constitution stated, “Persons entrusted with the legislative and executive Powers are the Trustees and Servants of the Public.”

Based on popular sovereignty, each state created a “republican” form of democracy (republic) in which representatives elected by the voters made the laws. This differed sharply from the system in England where elected members of the House of Commons had to share lawmaking power with the king and House of Lords, both of which usually inherited their government positions.

The states made clear that the rule of law would control their republican governments. John Adams of Massachusetts wrote that a republic is “an empire of laws, and not men.”

Separation of Powers

In 1748, France’s Baron de Montesquieu wrote *The Spirit of the Laws.* He described a “separation of powers” that included a legislature making the laws, an executive enforcing the laws, and a judiciary interpreting the laws. He used as his example the English system of king, parliament, and courts.

Most of those who were involved in drafting their first state constitutions had read or were familiar with Montesquieu’s theory of the separation of powers. However, he seemed to overlook the reality that the powers of government in England were not always clear-cut. For example, Parliament’s House of Lords could act as the highest court of appeals.

The states sought to keep the three branches of government independent of one another as a way to prevent one branch from becoming too powerful. Virginia’s Constitution designed its government so that no branch would exercise powers that belonged to one of the others.

Bicameral Legislature

All the state constitutions assumed that the legislature would be the most important part of the government. Legislators were elected by voters to represent their interests, the essence of republican democracy.

Based on popular sovereignty, each state created a “republican” form of democracy in which representatives elected by the voters made the laws.

Who were the voters? Of course, women and slaves were excluded from voting at this time, and most free black men and Indians could not vote. White adult males had to prove they were a resident, owned a certain amount of land, possessed private property worth so much money, paid taxes, or some combination of these.

All but two of the states created bicameral (two-house) legislatures. Pennsylvania and Georgia had unicameral (one-house) legislatures, believing they were more democratic. The lower house in bicameral legislatures, most commonly called the house of representatives, was the larger of the two houses. Lower house and unicameral members represented towns, counties, or other districts and were considered closest to the people in the government.

Lower house members usually had to qualify as voters, sometimes with a greater property requirement. The only age qualification was the minimum age for voting (21). Several state constitutions had a “religious test,” which required their lower house members to be Christians.

All states elected their lower house representatives for one-year terms except South Carolina with two-year terms. All “money bills,” those that dealt with taxes and spending, had to originate in the lower house of bicameral legislatures.

Bicameral upper houses were often called the senate. Members were directly elected by the people except in Maryland where an elected convention chose among its delegates to represent each county in the upper house. Members usually had to own more property than those in the lower house. A few states had a religious qualification. The minimum age requirement ranged from 21 to 30. Members served terms between one to five years.

Upper houses had full lawmaking powers, but could not initiate “money bills.” However, they had to approve those and all other bills passed by the lower house before they could become laws. The upper houses in some states conducted the trial of government officers who had been impeached (charged) by the lower house.

Chief Executive

The first state constitutions called their chief executive either governor or president. In eight states, the legislature chose the chief executive. In the remaining five states, the voters directly elected him. Most chief executives served one-year terms.

Some state constitutions had age, property, or religious qualifications for the chief executive. But, more than half the constitutions...
named no qualifications at all. Maryland required its governor to be “a person of wisdom, experience, and virtue.” Most of the first state constitutions greatly limited the powers of the chief executive, fearing he might become another tyrant like King George III. New York and Massachusetts were exceptions.

Along with high court judges, the New York governor, elected by the voters, was a member of the Council of Revision that could veto laws passed by the legislature. Only the Massachusetts constitution empowered its voter-elected governor to act alone to veto laws.

Judiciary

The courts made up the weakest of the three branches of government in all the first state constitutions. Judges in various states were appointed by the chief executive, the legislature, or by both acting together. The courts acting alone had no power to declare laws unconstitutional.

Some states limited the terms of their judges to a certain number of years. Other states followed the English tradition of lifetime appointments for “good behavior.” This meant a judge could be impeached and removed from office if he abused his power like taking bribes.

Checks and Balances

Built into the first state constitutions were “checks and balances” to limit the powers of government. The short, mostly one-year, terms of office were designed to prevent lawmakers and chief executives from acquiring too much power. A saying at that time warned, “Where annual elections end, there slavery begins.”

Bicameral legislatures pitted the lower against the upper house so neither could pass laws without the other’s approval. New York and Massachusetts set up procedures that involved the chief executive to check the legislature by vetoing laws. But, in both states, the legislature could balance that check by overriding the veto by a two-thirds vote.

There was no judicial check on the constitutionality of laws at this time. However, Pennsylvania’s first state constitution included a Council of Censors, which was elected by the voters to meet every seven years to examine all laws passed by the legislature. It could recommend that the legislature repeal laws that the Council believed to be unconstitutional.

Bill of Rights

A majority of the American colonies produced written guarantees of rights such as trial by jury based on the “rights of Englishmen.” Americans considered these to be “inalienable rights,” natural rights that could not be taken away by any power or even freely given up.

The first colonies to write bills of rights were Maryland in 1639 and Massachusetts in 1641. These written rights limited the power of government far more than in England. However, they were still acts of a colonial legislature, which could be overruled by the king.

Led by Virginia in 1776, six states plus Vermont wrote formal bills of rights into their first state constitutions. Four more states wrote certain rights into the body of their constitutions.

By 1780, the first state bills of rights together accounted for all but one of the rights that ended up later in the U.S. Bill of Rights. The six rights most frequently listed by the states were (1) free exercise of religion, (2) jury trial in criminal cases, (3) freedom of the press, (4) due process of law, (5) no excessive bail, and (6) no unreasonable searches and seizures. The one right missing in the state constitutions was that the drafters failed to reserve that other unnamed rights were “retained by the people” (Ninth Amendment of the U.S. Bill of Rights).

Amendment Process

Seven of the thirteen states provided a procedure for amending their first state constitutions. Three of these states did this solely through action by the legislature. Four states required a constitutional convention to meet and approve amendments. None of the first state constitutions called for submitting amendments to the voters for ratification.

The Federal Constitution

By the time the delegates arrived at the Philadelphia Constitutional Convention in 1787, they brought with them the basic building blocks from their own first and, in some cases, second state constitutions. These building blocks provided the basis for most of the debates at Philadelphia, although the state constitutions often differed over the specifics. In addition, the delegates had an advantage of witnessing their state constitutional governments in operation.

One scholar has linked provisions in the U.S. Constitution to similar ones in the state constitutions plus the charters used by Connecticut and Rhode Island. He found more than 200 links. The first state constitutions with the
most links to the federal Constitution were those of Massachusetts (53) and New York (51).

The state constitution building block that the Philadelphia delegates did not adopt was a federal bill of rights. Most felt it was not needed since the states provided their own protections. But, this proved to be a mistake. The chief argument of those who opposed ratifying the Constitution was the lack of a bill of rights to prevent federal abuses of individual liberties.

Supporters of ratification finally promised to amend the Constitution with a bill of rights. James Madison led the effort in the First Congress to add a number of amendments to the Constitution based almost entirely on rights found in the state constitutions.

Ten amendments, containing over two dozen specific rights, were finally ratified by the required three-fourths the states in 1791. Thus, the federal Bill of Rights was added to the U. S. Constitution.

Among the thirteen states, all but Massachusetts eventually replaced their first constitutions, or charters in the case of Connecticut and Rhode Island. The states often revised their constitutions to be more in line with the U. S. Constitution. Pennsylvania and Georgia adopted a bicameral legislature in their updated constitutions. No state constitution today has an enforceable property or religious requirement for voting or holding public office.

**DISCUSSION AND WRITING**

1. Why did each of the thirteen states adopt a written constitution and not an unwritten one like that of England?

2. How were the first state constitutions similar to and different from the U. S. Constitution in the following areas?
   a. bicameralism
   b. qualifications and terms for members of the legislature and chief executive
   c. selection and terms of judges
   d. bill of rights

3. Why do you think the first state constitutions and the U. S. Constitution included “checks and balances”?

4. Imagine you were a member of the Constitutional Convention. Would you have added another right you thought important? If so, what would it have been? And why would you have added it?
We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article I.

SECTION. 1.

All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

SECTION. 2. House Qualifications

The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

SECTION. 3. Senate Qualifications

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, [chosen by the Legislature thereof]* for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

* This asterisk indicates a highlighted section of the text that was not part of the original content but was added to emphasize the importance of the rule. It is not a part of the original document and should not be included in the final output.
No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall choose their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

SECTION. 4.

The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be [on the first Monday in December,*] unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

SECTION. 5.

Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour; and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

SECTION. 6.

The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such Time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office.
SECTION 7.

All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills.

Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a Law. But in all such Cases the Votes of both Houses shall be determined by Yeas and Nays, and the Names of the Persons voting for and against the Bill shall be entered on the Journal of each House respectively, If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of Adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the Same shall take Effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the Rules and Limitations prescribed in the Case of a Bill.

SECTION 8.

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offenses against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;
To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenal, dock-Yards and other needful Buildings; -And

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

SECTION 9.

The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.

No Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.
[No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or Enumeration herein before directed to be taken.]

No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another; nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.

No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law, and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

SECTION 10.

No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing it's inspection Laws; and the net Produce of all Duties and Imposts, laid by any State on Imports or Exports, shall be for the Use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such Laws shall be subject to the Revision and Control of the Congress.

No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.
Article II.

SECTION 1.

The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows:

Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress; but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by Ballot for two Persons, of whom one at least shall not be an Inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a List of all the Persons voted for, and of the Number of Votes for each; which List they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the Seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the Presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have an equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse by Ballot one of them for President; and if no Person have a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like Manner chuse the President. But in chusing the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representation from each State having one Vote; A quorum for this Purpose shall consist of a Member or Members from two thirds of the States, and a Majority of all the States shall be necessary to a Choice. In every Case, after the Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal Votes, the Senate shall chuse from them by Ballot the Vice President.

The Congress may determine the Time of chusing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.

In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by Law provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what Officer shall then act as President, and such Officer shall act accordingly, until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

The President shall, at stated Times, receive for his Services, a Compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the Period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation: — "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."
SECTION. 2.

The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; he may require the Opinion, in writing, of the principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and 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, 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.

The President shall have Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate, by granting Commissions which shall expire at the End of their next Session.

SECTION. 3.

He shall from time to time give to the 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, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

SECTION. 4.

The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.
Article. III.

SECTION. 1.

The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

SECTION. 2.

The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority; - to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls; - to all Cases of admiralty and maritime Jurisdiction; - to Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party; - to Controversies between two or more States; - [between a State and Citizens of another State;]1 between Citizens of different States, - between Citizens of the same State claiming Lands under Grants of different States, [and between a State, or the Citizens thereof; and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.]2

1 In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party, the supreme Court shall have original Jurisdiction. In all the other Cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

2 The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment; shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by Law have directed.

SECTION. 3.

The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attainted.

1. Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open Court.
Article IV.

SECTION 1.

Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

SECTION 2.

i. The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

A Person charged in any State with Treason, Felony, or other Crime, who shall flee from Justice, and be found in another State, shall on Demand of the executive Authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

ii. No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due.

SECTION 3.

i. New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

ii. The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

SECTION 4.

i. The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.
Article VI.

All Debts contracted and Engagements entered into, before the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

Article VII.

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

Done in Convention by the Unanimous Consent of the States present the Seventeenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the Twelfth In Witness whereof We have hereunto subscribed our Names,

Go. Washington--Presidt:
and deputy from Virginia

NEW HAMPSHIRE
   John Langdon
   Nicholas Gilman

MASSACHUSETTS
   Nathaniel Gorham
   Rufus King

CONNECTICUT
   Wm. Saml. Johnson
   Roger Sherman

NEW YORK
   Alexander Hamilton

NEW JERSEY
   Wil: Livingston
   David Brearley
   Wm. Paterson
   Jona: Dayton

PENNSYLVANIA
   B Franklin
   Thomas Mifflin
   Robt Morris
   Geo. Clymer
   Thos. FitzSimons
   Jared Ingersoll
   James Wilson
   Gouv Morris

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES
In Convention Monday
September 17th, 1787.
Present
The States of
New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Mr. Ham-
ilton from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and
Georgia.

Resolved,
That the preceding Constitution be laid before the United
States in Congress assembled, and that it is the Opinion
of this Convention, that it should afterwards be submitted
to a Convention of Delegates, chosen in each State by the
People thereof, under the Recommendation of its Legisla-
ture, for their Ascent and Ratification; and that each Con-
vention assenting to, and ratifying the Same, should give
Notice thereof to the United States in Congress assembled.
Resolved, That it is the Opinion of this Convention, that
as soon as the Conventions of nine States shall have ratified
this Constitution, the United States in Congress assembled
should fix a Day on which Electors should be appointed by
the States which shall have ratified the same, and a Day on
which the Electors should assemble to vote for the Presi-
dent, and the Time and Place for commencing Proceedings
under this Constitution.

That after such Publication the Electors should be ap-
pointed, and the Senators and Representatives elected: That
the Electors should meet on the Day fixed for the Election
of the President, and should transmit their Votes certified,
signed, sealed and directed, as the Constitution requires, to
the Secretary of the United States in Congress assembled,
that the Senators and Representatives should convene at the
Time and Place assigned; that the Senators should appoint
a President of the Senate, for the sole Purpose of receiving,
opening and counting the Votes for President; and, that
after he shall be chosen, the Congress, together with the
President, should, without Delay, proceed to execute this
Constitution.

By the unanimous Order of the Convention
Go. Washington-Presidt:
W. JACKSON Secretary.
THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AS RATIFIED BY THE STATES

Preamble to the Bill of Rights

Congress of the United States began and held at the City of New-York, on Wednesday the fourth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine

The Conventions of a number of the States, having at the time of their adopting the Constitution, expressed a desire, in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers, that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added: And as extending the ground of public confidence in the Government, will best ensure the beneficial ends of its institution.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, two thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following Articles be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, as amendments to the Constitution of the United States, all, or any of which Articles, when ratified by three fourths of the said Legislatures, to be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of the said Constitution; viz.

ARTICLES in addition to, and Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant to the fifth Article of the original Constitution.

(Note: The first 10 amendments to the Constitution were ratified December 15, 1791, and form what is known as the "Bill of Rights.")

Amendment I.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II.

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III.

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV.

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V.

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.
Amendment VI.
In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

Amendment VII.
In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII.
Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX.
The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X.
The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

AMENDMENTS 11-27

Amendment XI.
Passed by Congress March 4, 1794. Ratified February 7, 1795.
(Note: A portion of Article III, Section 2 of the Constitution was modified by the 11th Amendment.)
The Judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by Citizens of another State, or by Citizens or Subjects of any Foreign State.

Amendment XII.
Passed by Congress December 9, 1803. Ratified June 15, 1804.
(Note: A portion of Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution was changed by the 12th Amendment.)
The Electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate;--the President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted;--The person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. [And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President.]* The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.

*Superseded by Section 3 of the 20th Amendment.
Amendment XIII.
Passed by Congress January 31, 1865. Ratified December 6, 1865.
(Note: A portion of Article IV, Section 2 of the Constitution was changed by the 13th Amendment.)

SECTION 1.
Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Amendment XIV.
Passed by Congress June 13, 1866. Ratified July 9, 1868.
(Note: Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution was modified by Section 2 of the 14th Amendment.)

SECTION 1.
All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

SECTION 2.
Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, [being twenty-one years of age,] and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

SECTION 3.
No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

SECTION 4.
The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

SECTION 5.
The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

*Changed by Section 1 of the 26th Amendment.
Amendment XV
Passed by Congress February 26, 1869. Ratified February 3, 1870.

SECTION 1.
The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

SECTION 2.
The Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XVI
Passed by Congress July 2, 1909. Ratified February 3, 1913.
(Note: Article I, Section 9 of the Constitution was modified by the 16th Amendment.)
The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

Amendment XVII
Passed by Congress May 13, 1912. Ratified April 8, 1913.
(Note: Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution was modified by the 17th Amendment.)
The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures.
When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of such State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, That the legislature of any State may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.
This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.

Amendment XVIII

SECTION 1.
After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

SECTION 2.
The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

SECTION 3.
This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

Amendment XIX
The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.
Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.
Amendment XX


(Note: Article I, Section 4 of the Constitution was modified by Section 2 of this Amendment. In addition, a portion of the 12th Amendment was superseded by Section 3.)

SECTION 1.

The terms of the President and the Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

SECTION 2.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

SECTION 3.

If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

SECTION 4.

The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

SECTION 5.

Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

SECTION 6.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission.

Amendment XXI

Passed by Congress February 20, 1933. Ratified December 5, 1933.

SECTION 1.

The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2.

The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

SECTION 3.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.
Amendment XXII

Passed by Congress March 21, 1947. Ratified February 27, 1951.

SECTION 1.

No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

SECTION 2.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission to the States by the Congress.

Amendment XXIII


SECTION 1, Washington D.C.

The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as Congress may direct:

A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the States, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a State; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

SECTION 2.

The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XXIV


SECTION 1.

The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay poll tax or other tax.

SECTION 2.

The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.
Amendment XXV

(Note: Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution was modified by the 25th Amendment.)

SECTION 1.

In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

SECTION 2.

Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

SECTION 3.

Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tem of each House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

SECTION 4.

Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tem of each House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tem of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that no inability exists, he shall resume the powers and duties of his office unless the President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit within four days to the President pro tem of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the Congress, within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if Congress is not in session, within twenty-one days after Congress is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of both Houses that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of his office.

Amendment XXVI

(Note: Amendment 14, Section 2 of the Constitution was modified by Section 1 of the 26th Amendment.)

SECTION 1.

The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

SECTION 2.

The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XXVII


No law varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives shall take effect, until an election of representatives shall have intervened.