

Preamble

Declares purpose and Limitations of Government

First three articles have three common things:

Qualifications of its members

Enumerated powers (delegated powers)

Powers denied to (limitations)

Article 1: Legislative Branch-Congress

Section 1- Establishes bicameral Congress

Section 2- House of Representatives

One per 30,000 residences on 10 yr. census

Representation/Taxes proportional

2 year term- members elected every 2 years

Requirements: 25 years of age, citizen for 7 years, resident of State which they represent

State governors shall fill any vacancies

Elects Speaker of the House (leader)

Impeachment rights (accusation of all civil employees)

Section 3- Senate

2 per state elected to a 6 year term of office

Originally set in 3 classes to stagger term expiration

Requirements: 30 years of age, citizen for 9 years, resident of state which they represent

US vice-president serves as Senate President and tiebreaker vote

Impeachment hearings- penalty not to exceed removal from office

Rules for election set by individual states

Section 4- Congress must meet at least once a year

Section 5- Legislative proceedings

Each house sets and enforces procedures including some behavior

Keeping and publishing records (journals)

Select officers including President Pro-tempore (acting for absent VP)

Establish a quorum- a minimum number of people to conduct business

quorum is always 1 more than 50%

Section 6- Compensations and Privileges

Shall not be detained while en-route to session

Cannot hold any other civil office while active in either House

Shall set pay including rates for self

Section 7- Passage of bills

Introduced in either house passed by 2/3

goes between both houses w/ objections and amendments until passed

Send to President

sign into law, veto, or drawer

drawer- 10 days later:

if congress is in session, becomes law
if congress is not in session, does not become law
congress overrides veto w/ 2/3 majority vote in both houses

Section 8- Enumerated powers

- All things money for federal government
 - set and collect taxes, duties
 - set federal budget
 - Treasury issues
- Oversee military
 - Declares war
 - Set rules and regulations
 - Repel Invasion
- Establishes immigration policies
- Write laws
- Establish, maintain, and run a National Capital
- Oversee US Postal Service
- Establish lower Federal Courts
- Acquire land - eminent domain

Section 9- Limits on Legislative Branch

- No tax levied on interstate trade
- All states will be treated equally
- All monetary matters must be legal and recorded. Establishes accountability
- Nobility shall not be established
- No member may benefit financially by any law

Section 10- Limits on States

- No treaties w/out consent of Congress
- Cannot go to war w/out consent of Congress
- print money or accept anything other than US money
- set any Duties on goods from others states or countries
- Limit legal imports from any other state

Article 2: Executive Branch

Section 1- Election, Installation, Removal

- President and Vice-President - 4 year term
 - 35 years old, Naturalized citizen, resident for 14 years
- Receives majority of Electoral Votes
 - Each State has one vote for each Senator and Representative (Members of Congress)
- Shall take an Oath of Office
- VP takes over in case of resignation, death, or inability to perform duties

Section 2- Presidential Powers

- Commander-in-Chief of Military
- Enforces laws passed by Congress
- Establish a cabinet of advisors
- Pardons (except for impeachment)
- Treaties

Appoints ambassadors, federal judges

Section 3- Responsibilities

State of the Union to Congress once a year
Take care to enforce all laws
Meet with ambassadors
Call to order Congress in extraordinary time

Section 4- Impeachment

Treason, bribery, or any high crimes (murder, lying to Congress, etc.)

Oath of Office

I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of the president of the United States and will to the best of my ability preserve, defend, protect the Constitution of the United States.

Article 3: Judicial Branch

Section 1- Powers

One Supreme Court and other(s) as Congress see fit
Lifetime appointment - while on good behavior

Section 2- Scope

All cases under
Constitution, Treaties, Federal laws
Ambassadors, admiralty, argument between states, citizens of different states, citizens and foreign countries
Trial by jury (except Impeachment) in home state

Section 3- Impeachment

Treason- overt act against the US like assisting or giving aid to an enemy during wartime
Requirement:
at least 2 witnesses OR confession in open court

Article 4: The States

Section 1- Full Faith and Credit

Recognition of all public acts, court rulings, and proceedings

Section 2- Privileges, Extradition, and Fugitives

Citizens shall enjoy privileges across state lines (Drivers License)
Fugitive fleeing from one state to another shall be renewed upon request of local authority

Section 3- Admissions of States

Congress shall admit new states
No state may split or join with another state w/out Congress approval

Section 4- Guarantee to States

A republic of Federal government which shall:
protect states from invasion
Establish laws

Provide Domestic tranquility