



## FEDERAL SECTION

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## Time Line of Constitutional Events

Here is a sampling of the events that led to America's independence and adoption of a new constitution. You will find the years and the significant events that happened during that time. The goal was to establish a framework for a more robust and stable federal government while preserving individual rights and freedoms.

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★ ★ ★

### Protests against British rule

1763–1765

England decides on a program of taxation and control of the colonies. The American colonists began organized protests against British rule. Patriotic groups such as the *Sons of Liberty* are formed. Laws such as the *Quartering, Stamp, and Sugar Act* angered the colonists, who were forced to pay unjust taxes and provide supplies to British troops.

### Uprisings in Boston

1770–1773

Colonists reduced their boycott of British goods when they withdrew all of the *Townshend Acts*, except the tax on tea. The *Boston Massacre* occurs when an angry crowd of citizens surrounds a group of soldiers, causing them to open fire. With the American colonists still angry over British tax policies, the *Boston Tea Party* uprising occurred.

### The Declaration of Independence

1776

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, the *Second Continental Congress* adopts the *Declaration of Independence* (written by Thomas Jefferson and committee). The Declaration was debated by 56 courageous men and signed at *Independence Hall*. A few days later, the *Liberty Bell* is rung in Philadelphia to call the people to the first public reading of the Declaration.

### Beginning of the American Revolution

1775

When the Americans learn the British plan to seize their guns and ammunition, *Paul Revere* is sent to alert the countryside and gather the *Minutemen*. An unidentified shot triggers the Battle of Lexington. This starts the American Revolution and leads to another famous battle, *Bunker Hill*. In May, the *Second Continental Congress* meets in Philadelphia.

### First Continental Congress

1774

In response to the Boston Tea Party, the Parliament passes several acts to punish Massachusetts. Twelve of the thirteen colonies name delegates to the *First Continental Congress*. On September 5<sup>th</sup>, they meet mainly to deal with Britain's actions.

### The Articles of Confederation

1777–1781

After considerable debate and alteration, the *Articles of Confederation* were adopted by the Continental Congress on November 15, 1777. However, the document was not fully ratified by the states until March 1, 1781. This document served as the first constitution of the United States. In October of 1781, British forces surrendered at *Yorktown*.

### Ratification of the Constitution

1787–1788

On May 14, 1787, the *Constitutional Convention* met in Philadelphia. Here the delegates reviewed and approved the Constitution. In 1788, nine states ratified the Constitution, which was enacted (the remaining four states will ratify by 1790). America is preparing to operate under this new document.

### Our New Government

1789

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, the new federal government is inaugurated in New York. In April, the first House of Representatives is organized. *George Washington* is elected the first president on April 6<sup>th</sup>. He is inaugurated on April 30<sup>th</sup>. On September 25<sup>th</sup>, the first ten amendments (*Bill of Rights*) are adopted by Congress.

## QUESTIONS

**PUT THE EVENTS IN ORDER.** For each question group, write the numbers 1, 2, or 3, to indicate which event happened first, second, and third.

Group 1. Boston Massacre \_\_\_\_\_, Adopted Declaration of Independence \_\_\_\_\_, Washington becomes president \_\_\_\_\_

Group 2. Articles of Confederation \_\_\_\_\_, Boston Tea Party \_\_\_\_\_, Constitution ratified by nine states \_\_\_\_\_

Group 3. England sets taxation policy for colonies \_\_\_\_\_, Constitutional Convention \_\_\_\_\_, Battle of Bunker Hill \_\_\_\_\_

Group 4. Paul Revere alerts colonists \_\_\_\_\_, Stamp Act is law \_\_\_\_\_, First House of Representatives organized \_\_\_\_\_

Group 5. Bill of Rights adopted \_\_\_\_\_, First Continental Congress \_\_\_\_\_, Declaration is read to the public \_\_\_\_\_

Group 6. Second Continental Congress meets \_\_\_\_\_, Sons of Liberty forms \_\_\_\_\_, American Revolution ends \_\_\_\_\_

Six other principles of the U.S. Constitution guide our government's structure and function besides protecting individual rights. These principles reflect the framers' intentions to create a government that balances power and promotes the common good. In upcoming units, we will cover these principles in more detail.

### 1. Checks and Balances

**Summary:** This principle ensures that no single branch of government can dominate. Each of the three branches has the ability to check the others.

**Examples in the Constitution:** Presidential veto power in Article 1, Section 7.

### 2. Separation of Powers

**Summary:** To prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful, the Constitution divides the federal government into three branches.

**Examples in the Constitution:** Articles 1, 2, and 3 outlines the responsibilities of the three branches.

### 3. Popular Sovereignty

**Summary:** The authority for government originates from the people and they rule through their representatives. Direct democracy actions like *referendums* and *initiatives* embody popular sovereignty. This also includes the concept of *republicanism* where people elect representatives to govern on their behalf.

**Examples in the Constitution:** The preamble (We the People..) and the Ninth Amendment.

### 4. Federalism

**Summary:** The sharing of power between the federal, state, and local governments. In many ways, this is a natural division of functions. Local governments handle local affairs; national affairs by the federal government.

While each of the 50 states has its own constitution, all provisions for state constitutions must comply with the U.S. Constitution.

**Examples in the Constitution:** The 10th Amendment.

### 5. Judicial Review

**Summary:** The judiciary has the power to review laws and government actions to determine if they violate the Constitution.

**Examples in the Constitution:** While judicial review is not within the text of the Constitution itself, this principle was established in the case of *Marbury v. Madison* (1803).

### 6. Limited Government

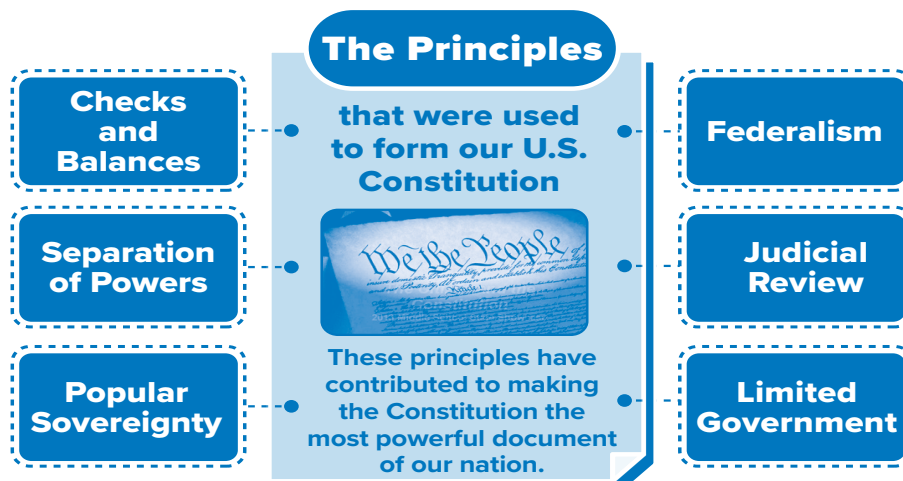
**Summary:** The government can only exercise the powers granted to it by the Constitution. Everyone, including government officials, is subject to the law.

**Examples in the Constitution:** The *enumerated powers*, as listed in Article I, Section 8, give specific powers granted to Congress, such as the power to tax, regulate commerce, and declare war. Congress can only exercise powers explicitly listed in the Constitution; all other powers are reserved for the states or the people.

### QUESTIONS

**WHICH PRINCIPLE?** Identify the principle that best describes the following statements. Put the number of the principle(s) listed in the corresponding title box in the space provided (more than one principle may apply).

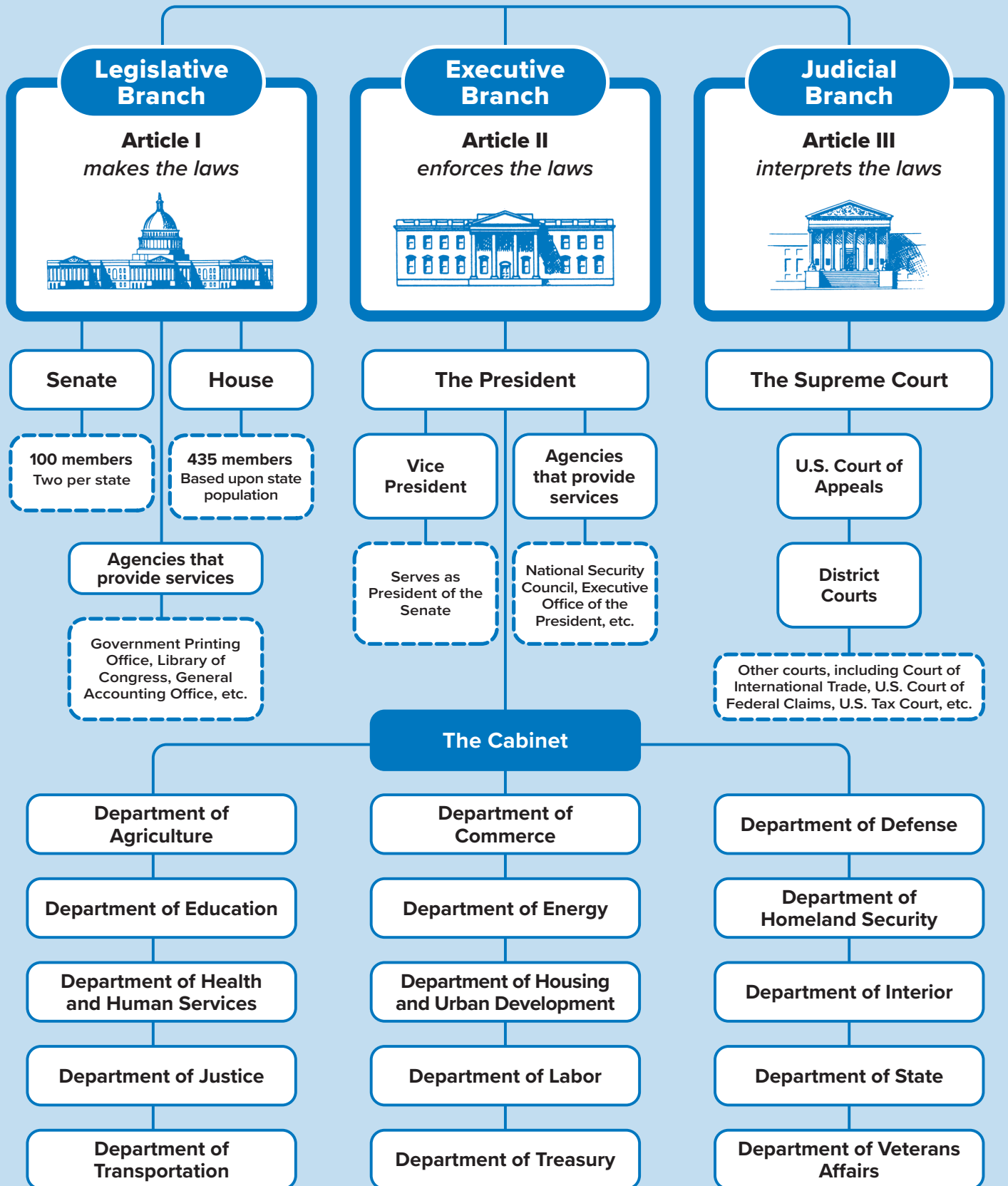
- \_\_\_ 1. Only the federal government can print money.
- \_\_\_ 2. Congress passes a law that the president then vetoes.
- \_\_\_ 3. The government gets its power from the people.
- \_\_\_ 4. The president must follow the law.
- \_\_\_ 5. The Senate confirms a presidential nomination.
- \_\_\_ 6. A referendum to build a new school is passed by the voters of your city.
- \_\_\_ 7. The Supreme Court declares a law unconstitutional.
- \_\_\_ 8. Congress can impeach a president if they believe powers were abused.
- \_\_\_ 9. A representative holds a town hall meeting on banning plastic bags to get voters' opinions.



*These principles have made the Constitution the most powerful document and guideline for our nation. They work together to balance power, ensure accountability, and protect individual rights within the framework of the government.*

*You will learn more about these concepts in upcoming units.*

## The Constitution sets up three branches.





Donald Trump is the 47th President of the United States. However, he is only the 45th person to serve as president. Like Mr. Trump, President Grover Cleveland served two non-consecutive terms and is thus recognized as the 22nd and 24th president. Today, the president is limited to two four-year terms, but until the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, ratified in 1951, a president could serve unlimited terms. Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected President four times, from 1932 until he died in 1945; he is the only president ever to have served more than two terms.

### Women for President and Vice President

Several women have sought to become President of the United States. A number received national attention as pioneers, potential candidates, or candidates of minor parties. However, they have yet to be elected to the highest office. Recently, two women have sought our country's highest office. In 2016, Hillary Clinton was a major-party nominee for president. In 2024, Vice President Kamala Harris officially accepted the presidential nomination after President Biden chose not to run for reelection. Besides Clinton's and Harris' recent runs, Victoria Woodhull became the first female presidential candidate in 1872. Shirley Chisholm sought the 1972 Democratic nomination, becoming the first black woman to run for president.

Harris made history as the first woman elected vice president in 2020 as Joe Biden's running mate. Two other women have been nominated to run for the office of Vice President: Sarah Palin by the Republican party in 2008 and Geraldine Ferraro by the Democratic party in 1984.

## QUESTIONS

### FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. Which amendment limits the term of a president? \_\_\_\_
2. Which president was elected four times? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What candidate ran for president even though they did not have the right to vote? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many people have been president? \_\_\_\_\_

**IDENTIFY THE PRESIDENTS.** Mount Rushmore is a symbol of America, representing important events in the history of the United States. Who are the presidents listed in the picture below?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

If a 5th president was to be added, who would choose and why? \_\_\_\_\_



## Presidents of the United States

President	Term	Party
1. George Washington	1789–1797	None
2. John Adams	1797–1801	Federalist
3. Thomas Jefferson	1801–1809	Dem.-Rep.
4. James Madison	1809–1817	Dem.-Rep.
5. James Monroe	1817–1825	Dem.-Rep.
6. John Quincy Adams	1825–1829	Dem.-Rep.
7. Andrew Jackson	1829–1837	Democratic
8. Martin Van Buren	1837–1841	Democratic
9. William H. Harrison	1841*	Whig
10. John Tyler	1841–1845	Whig
11. James K. Polk	1845–1849	Democratic
12. Zachary Taylor	1849–1850*	Whig
13. Millard Fillmore	1850–1853	Whig
14. Franklin Pierce	1853–1857	Democratic
15. James Buchanan	1857–1861	Democratic
16. Abraham Lincoln	1861–1865*	Republican
17. Andrew Johnson	1865–1869	Democratic
18. Ulysses S. Grant	1869–1877	Republican
19. Rutherford B. Hayes	1877–1881	Republican
20. James A. Garfield	1881*	Republican
21. Chester A. Arthur	1881–1885	Republican
22. Grover Cleveland	1885–1889	Democratic
23. Benjamin Harrison	1889–1893	Republican
24. Grover Cleveland	1893–1897	Democratic

President	Term	Party
25. William McKinley	1897–1901*	Republican
26. Theodore Roosevelt	1901–1909	Republican
27. William H. Taft	1909–1913	Republican
28. Woodrow Wilson	1913–1921	Democratic
29. Warren G. Harding	1921–1923*	Republican
30. Calvin Coolidge	1923–1929	Republican
31. Herbert Hoover	1929–1933	Republican
32. Franklin D. Roosevelt	1933–1945*	Democratic
33. Harry S. Truman	1945–1953	Democratic
34. Dwight D. Eisenhower	1953–1961	Republican
35. John F. Kennedy	1961–1963*	Democratic
36. Lyndon B. Johnson	1963–1969	Democratic
37. Richard M. Nixon	1969–1974*	Republican
38. Gerald R. Ford	1974–1977	Republican
39. Jimmy Carter	1977–1981	Democratic
40. Ronald Reagan	1981–1989	Republican
41. George Bush	1989–1993	Republican
42. Bill Clinton	1993–2001	Democratic
43. George W. Bush	2001–2009	Republican
44. Barack Obama	2009–2017	Democratic
45. Donald Trump	2017–2021	Republican
46. Joe Biden	2021–2025	Democratic
47. Donald Trump	2025–	Republican

\*Presidency ended before completion of term



*"The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or... of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments..." — U.S. Constitution, Article 5*

Our constitutional form of government can be changed without revolution or rebellion. The authors of the Constitution, revolutionaries themselves, felt there should be provisions for orderly change.

The amendment process is discussed in Article five of the Constitution. To make an amendment to the Constitution, the amendment must be proposed by either the states or Congress and then ratified by the states. Here is a summary of the details:

### Proposing and Ratifying Amendments

**Proposing Amendments:** There are two methods of proposing amendments to the Constitution:

1. Congress may propose amendments approved by a two-thirds majority in each house, or
2. The legislatures of two-thirds of the states may require Congress to summon a constitutional convention to consider amendments.

**Ratifying Amendments:** There are two ways of ratifying amendments to the Constitution:

1. An amendment is official when three-fourths of state legislatures approve it, or
2. When special conventions in three-fourths of the states approve it.

Every amendment except the 21st was approved by using the first option of proposing and ratifying.

Amendments to the United States Constitution may be adopted whenever the need arises. The 16th Amendment was passed to allow income taxes after an earlier income tax law was unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court. This is not to say that the U.S. Constitution is changed without much thought and consideration. Since the adoption of the U.S. Constitution in the late 1700s, there have only been 27 amendments. By comparison, California has over 500 amendments to its state constitution, which is over 100 years old.

To repeal an existing amendment, there must be another amendment added. There has been only one amendment repealed, the 18th (prohibition). The 18th Amendment will remain in the Constitution, but a notation has been added to mention that this has been repealed by the 21st.

### Amendments are Rarely Ratified

Thousands of amendments have been proposed since the Constitution was written, but only 27 have been ratified. Below are examples of failed amendments:

- Changing the voting age to 16
- Eliminating income tax
- Making English the official language
- Providing moments of silence in schools
- Desecrating the American flag is illegal

What do you think will be the next topic that becomes our 28th Amendment?

## Amending the Constitution

### Step 1 Amendment Is Proposed.

#### Option 1

Amendment is proposed by Congress with a two-thirds vote of both houses.

2/3

House & Senate

#### Option 2

Amendment is proposed by a national convention called by Congress at the request of two-thirds of the state legislatures.

34

state legislatures

### Step 2 Amendment Is Ratified.

#### Option 1

State legislatures in three-fourths of the states approve the amendment.

38

state legislatures

#### Option 2

State conventions in three-fourths of the states approve the amendment.

38

state conventions

### Miscellaneous Constitutional Information

In Article 4 of the Constitution, debts made under the Articles of Confederation were declared valid under the new government of the Constitution.

Article 6 of the Constitution lists no religious tests for government office. John F. Kennedy was the first Catholic to be elected president, and there has never been a Jewish president. Article 6 requires government officials to take an oath supporting the Constitution.

## QUESTIONS

### SHORT ANSWER

1. Describe the most common process used in amending the Constitution. \_\_\_\_\_
2. When was the last amendment passed, and what was the topic? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What do you think will be the topic that becomes our next amendment? \_\_\_\_\_

**AMENDING BY THE NUMBERS.** Choose the correct number from the bank that matches the statement.

**Number Bank: 5, 6, 13, 16, 18, 23, 27, 34, 38**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Number of states needed to propose an amendment
- \_\_\_\_\_ Number of states needed to ratify an amendment
- \_\_\_\_\_ Amending process is in this Article of the Constitution
- \_\_\_\_\_ Number of amendments to the U.S. Constitution
- \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment that was repealed
- \_\_\_\_\_ Article containing the "No Religious Test Clause"
- \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment passed to allow income taxes

The following test will help you prepare for your final Constitution test. It has questions similar to ones you will find on your final. It is suggested you write your answers on a piece of paper so you can take the test multiple times. You will find the correct answers at the bottom of Page 55.

**MULTIPLE CHOICE**

*Write the letter of the correct answer in the space provided.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The president may serve how many terms? a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4
2. \_\_\_\_\_ What is NOT a rule of the flag code?  
a. worn flags should be thrown in trash c. should be displayed on national holidays  
b. should be in the front of a parade d. exact likeness should not be used in ads
3. \_\_\_\_\_ How many amendments have been added to the Constitution? a. 10 b. 21 c. 27 d. 41
4. \_\_\_\_\_ How many years is the president's term of office? a. 2 b. 4 c. 6 d. 9
5. \_\_\_\_\_ What is the age requirement to become president? a. 18 b. 21 c. 35 d. 45
6. \_\_\_\_\_ After a bill has gone through both houses of Congress successfully, it is sent to:  
a. the President c. the Speaker of the House  
b. the States d. the Supreme Court
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Which amendment gave women who are citizens the right to vote in all elections?  
a. 17th b. 19th c. 22nd d. 27th
8. \_\_\_\_\_ How many U.S. senators come from each state? a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Each state receives at least \_\_\_\_\_ representative(s) in the U.S. House of Representatives.  
a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Who may veto a bill proposed by Congress?  
a. the President of the United States c. the Vice President  
b. the Secretary of State d. all Cabinet members
11. \_\_\_\_\_ The president of the Senate is:  
a. the President of the United States c. the Secretary of State  
b. the Speaker of the House d. the Vice President
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Which of these rights is NOT an unalienable right from the Declaration of Independence?  
a. liberty b. education c. pursuit of happiness d. life
13. \_\_\_\_\_ The Declaration of Independence was written largely by:  
a. Hamilton b. Washington c. Jefferson d. Adams
14. \_\_\_\_\_ The national budget is presented annually to Congress by the:  
a. the Vice President c. the Secretary of State  
b. the Governors d. the President
15. \_\_\_\_\_ There are how many branches of government? a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4
16. \_\_\_\_\_ The president takes the oath of office on:  
a. January 4th b. January 20th c. November 7th d. September 5th
17. \_\_\_\_\_ In our First Amendment, which is NOT a "freedom"?  
a. freedom of the press c. freedom of speech  
b. freedom of employment d. freedom of religion
18. \_\_\_\_\_ The vote of what group really decides who will be president?  
a. Electoral College c. United Nations  
b. popular vote by the people d. House of Representatives
19. \_\_\_\_\_ What is described in Article 1, Section 8, of the Constitution giving Congress broad powers to write laws about new situations?  
a. war power b. insight clause c. elastic clause d. inventional clause
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Which body has the power to borrow money?  
a. Congress c. Executive Branch  
b. Supreme Court d. State Legislatures

*continued*

No state is richer in important history than the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It became America's "melting pot" with a complex diversity of people of different ethnic, racial, and economic backgrounds.

Hundreds of years ago and before European settlement, Native American tribes roamed what is now Pennsylvania. The native tribes included the *Lenape* (or Delaware) and *Susquehannock* tribes, along with the *Nanticoke* and the *Shawnee*, who migrated to Pennsylvania after the Europeans arrived.

English explorer *Henry Hudson* was the first European to discover the Delaware Bay and River. He came here to what he called the South River on a 1609 voyage undertaken for the Dutch East India Company, during which he also discovered another river farther north, which now bears his name. A year later, an English expedition carrying *Lord Thomas de la Warr* to Virginia made a side trip into the South River, named Delaware, in his honor. The English claimed this river and its bay as their own. The conflicting English and Dutch land claims played out over the next seventy years, with the English finally gaining control of the Hudson and Delaware Rivers by the 1670s.

While the Dutch and English were the dominant forces in the area, Swedish settlers also claimed land along the river in the 1630s. They became the area's first permanent settlers, clearing land for agriculture, building several forts, and a church (now called *Gloria Dei/Old Swede's Church*) in Wicaco, now part of South Philadelphia.

The English Duke of York controlled the Pennsylvania region until 1681. That year, *King Charles II* of England granted the region to *William Penn* in payment for a debt to Penn's father. Penn, a member of a Christian group called the *Quakers*, wanted his fellow Quakers to have freedom of worship in Pennsylvania. *William Penn* He also desired religious freedom for persons of other faiths. Penn wanted Pennsylvanians to enjoy personal



and property rights and to have self-government. Some of these settlers eventually developed their own dialect; their descendants are now called the *Pennsylvania Dutch*.

As proprietor of this land, Penn seized the opportunity to create a government that would embody his Quaker-Whig ideas. In 1682 Penn drafted his "Frame of Government of Pennsylvania" with the philosophy of "Any government is free to the people under it where the laws rule, and the people are a party to those laws, and more than this is tyranny, oligarchy, or confusion." He crafted a government that he felt would strive for those ideals.

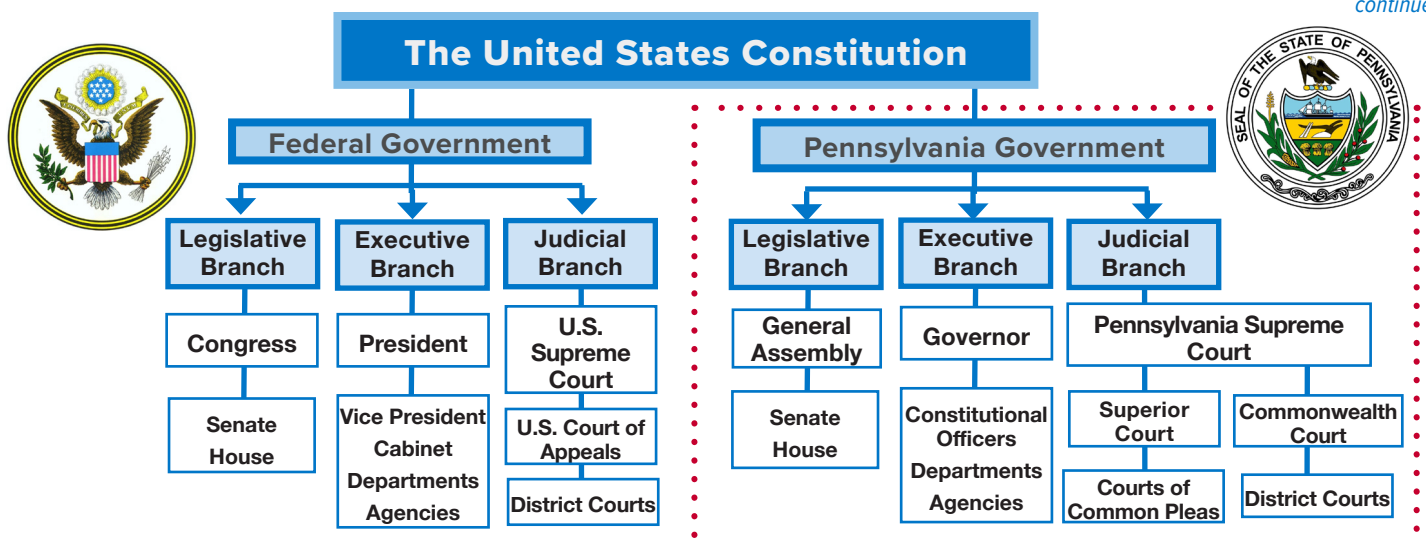
In a series of treaties based on mutual trust, he established good relations with the Delaware Indians, paying for most of the land. According to Legend, Penn and *Tamendend*, the Chief of Delaware, exchanged wampum belts under the famous *Shackamaxon* elm near Philadelphia. This peaceful truce becomes known as the *Great Treaty*.

From the late 1600s to the middle of the 1700s, the English colonists fought several wars against the French colonists and France's Indian allies. The *French and Indian War* began in western Pennsylvania in 1754. The English won but ended up in debt from fighting. They taxed the colonists to make back the money—something many people did not think was fair. Anger over this action helped lead to the *Revolutionary War*, which started in 1775.

The entire planning and much of the fighting of the Revolutionary War took place in Pennsylvania. The *First Continental Congress* met in Philadelphia on September 5, 1774, and the Revolutionary War began in April 1775. In May 1775, the *Second Continental Congress* met in Philadelphia, and in July 1776, it adopted the *Declaration of Independence* in Philadelphia.

On May 15, 1776, the Continental Congress issued a call for the colonies to overthrow England's rule and establish constitutions of their own that would ensure the "happiness and safety" of their inhabitants. Various

continued



The U.S. Constitution splits governing powers between the federal government and the states. This unit will cover the state government portion of the chart above. It will also include the study of local government bodies.



1

### Every state law starts with an idea.



The lawmaking process starts with an idea from you, the voting public, a state legislator, a government agency, etc.

2

### The bill is introduced.



A bill may start out in either the House or the Senate of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Each bill must be read by title three different days in each chamber before it can be passed.

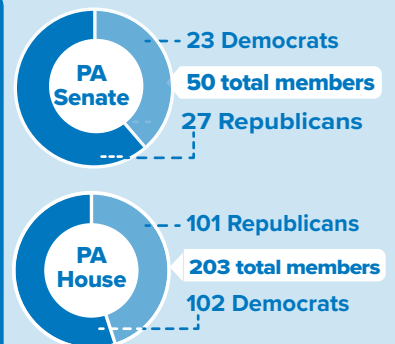
3

### Your state legislators at work, discussing and debating



When the bill is first filed, it is assigned a bill number and read to the Legislature for the first time. Senators and representatives meet in small groups to research, discuss, and make changes to the bill.

The state lawmaking process uses committees much like the federal government. Here the bill may have changes (amendments), get killed, get passed, have public hearings, or require more debate. Lobbyists may also meet with lawmakers.



4

### The General Assembly keeps favorable bills moving.

#### Approved by committee

If a majority vote favors the bill, it moves forward.



#### Second reading to the full legislative body

Amendments can still be proposed.



#### Third and final reading

After the final debate, the chamber votes on the bill. A simple majority is needed: 26 in the Senate, 102 in the House.



#### Approval from the other house

Bills that are approved move to the other chamber, following the same process.



#### Ready for the governor

Once both chambers agree on the same version of the final bill, it is sent to the governor.

5

### Governor's action



When the bill reaches the governor, he or she has 10 days to take action. This may involve the following actions:



Approving the bill by signing it into law



Vetoing with recommendations for changes



Vetoing it absolutely



Doing nothing and the bill will automatically become law after the 10-day period

If a bill is vetoed, it can become law if both chambers of the General Assembly vote with a two-third (2/3) majority to override the governor's veto. \*must occur in the same legislative session.

\*

## Townships

Like cities, townships have specific powers and are subject to state restriction and supervision. Township affairs are administered by elected officials. The three primary functions of township government are (1) construction and maintenance of rural roads and bridges, (2) general assistance to the needy, and (3) assessment of property.

Pennsylvania has two classes of townships. All townships are second class unless first class status has been approved by voters. Here is a summary of these two types:

**First Class Townships** establishes the board of commissioners (usually five) as the governing body, elected to four-year terms. To become a township of the first class, a township must have a population density of 300 persons per square mile. There are 93 first class townships.

**Second Class Townships** establishes the board of supervisors (usually three) as the governing body, elected to six-year terms. There are 1,454 second class townships.

## County Government

There are 67 counties in Pennsylvania. All counties carry out state policy of a general nature: they enforce laws, prosecute offenders, build and maintain roads, manage 911 center operation, conduct elections, assess property, and collect taxes. Also, counties are authorized to provide a variety of local government services, such as public health and planning, licensing, regulation of land use, and establishing such diverse functions as health care, hospitals, parks, and libraries.

Every county has a governing body known as the county board. Other officers include sheriff, clerk, and treasurer. A coroner, recorder, assessor, auditor, and others can be either appointed or elected, depending on the county. The *county seat* is the town that is the governmental center of each county and the base for these local government officials.

## School Districts

School districts in Pennsylvania are considered separate government units. Each district has an elected or appointed board of school directors to administer school affairs. To fund schools, they may issue bonds and levy school taxes. Voter approval may be required for bond issues.

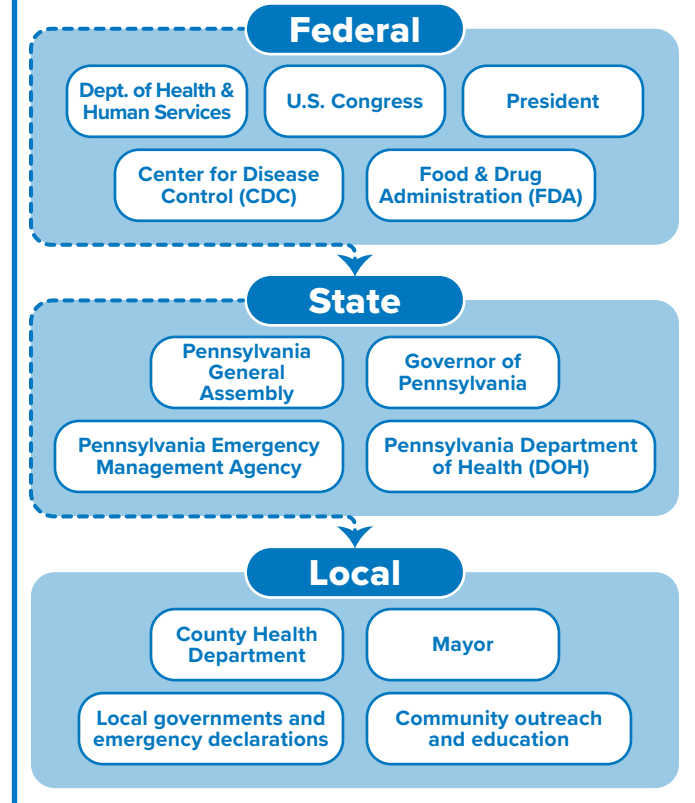
## QUESTIONS

**TRUE OR FALSE?** Write a **T** or **F** in the space provided.

- \_\_\_ 1. All Pennsylvania cities have home rule charters.
- \_\_\_ 2. In the council-manager form, a manager runs the city.
- \_\_\_ 3. There are more rural than urban municipalities.
- \_\_\_ 4. There are more townships than counties.
- \_\_\_ 5. Mayors are usually appointed by the governor.
- \_\_\_ 6. Philadelphia is the only first class city.
- \_\_\_ 7. There are 92 counties in Pennsylvania.
- \_\_\_ 8. Counties follow and take direction from state government.
- \_\_\_ 9. A school district is a government unit.

## The Levels of Government

There are three primary levels of government: federal, state, and local. The three levels played a significant role in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. The federal government provided guidance and resources to state and local governments to help them navigate the challenges of the pandemic.



**WHICH FORM OF GOVERNMENT?** Which form fits the statement given? Answer **Mayor-Council (MC)**, **Council-Manager (CM)**, or **Commission (CN)**.

- \_\_\_ 1. The mayor is responsible for the city's operation.
- \_\_\_ 2. A trained manager is elected by the city council to manage city affairs.
- \_\_\_ 3. The mayor enforces city ordinances.
- \_\_\_ 4. The form used by the city of Lancaster.
- \_\_\_ 5. Mayor serves as commission chairman.
- \_\_\_ 6. Residents elect five commissioners.
- \_\_\_ 7. Used by first and second class cities.

## SHORT ANSWER

1. Explain *home rule*. \_\_\_\_\_
2. In which county do you reside? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name one county service that directly affects you. \_\_\_\_\_

*This sheet to be filled out when you complete the Pennsylvania section. The numbers in parentheses gives the page number where the answer or additional information may be found.*

1. What cities have hosted the state capital? (58) \_\_\_\_\_
2. When was the first Pennsylvania Constitution written? (58) \_\_\_\_\_  
When was the present Pennsylvania Constitution written? (58-59) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name the states that border Pennsylvania. (60) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Explain how to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution. (62) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the main body in the legislative branch? (65) \_\_\_\_\_  
What two chambers does it contain? (65) \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the main purpose of the legislative branch? (65) \_\_\_\_\_
7. What are the qualifications for becoming a member of the Legislature? (65) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. How many members in the state Senate? (65) \_\_\_\_\_ In the state House? (66) \_\_\_\_\_
9. Who is the presiding officer of the state Senate? (65) \_\_\_\_\_
10. Who is the presiding officer of the state House? (66) \_\_\_\_\_
11. Explain the lawmaking process in Pennsylvania. (67-69) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. What can the General Assembly do after a veto by the governor? (67, 69) \_\_\_\_\_
13. What is a quorum in the General Assembly? (65) \_\_\_\_\_
14. Name one special duty of the state Senate. (65) \_\_\_\_\_
15. Name one special duty of the state House of Representatives. (66) \_\_\_\_\_
16. What helps the General Assembly conduct business efficiently in lawmaking? (67-68) \_\_\_\_\_
17. What are lobbies? (68) \_\_\_\_\_
18. What is the main purpose of the executive branch? (70) \_\_\_\_\_
19. What are the qualifications for governor? (70) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
20. What is the governor's salary? (70) \_\_\_\_\_ How many years in a term? (70) \_\_\_\_\_
21. What is the order of succession to the governor's office? (70) \_\_\_\_\_
22. What is the main purpose of the judicial branch? (72) \_\_\_\_\_
23. How many Pennsylvania Supreme Court justices? (72-73) \_\_\_\_\_
24. Name two duties of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. (72) \_\_\_\_\_
25. What is a civil case? (72) \_\_\_\_\_
26. What is the primary function of the Commonwealth court? (73) \_\_\_\_\_
27. Name three requirements to vote in Pennsylvania. (74) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
28. Describe the options for voting if you are not available on Election Day. (74) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
29. When is the next general election in Pennsylvania? (74-75) \_\_\_\_\_
30. How many counties in Pennsylvania and what is their main function? (77) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
31. Explain a mayor-council form of government. (77) \_\_\_\_\_
32. What is the principle of "home rule?" (77) \_\_\_\_\_
33. Name three taxes that Pennsylvania residents can expect to pay. (79) \_\_\_\_\_
34. Explain the roles of the governor and Legislature in the budget process. (79) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
35. What is the primary tax revenue for local governments? (79) \_\_\_\_\_