Unlocking the Keys to the Constitution

United States of America.

TATE, 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 fecure the bleffings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the

ARTICLEL

Sect. 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.

Sect. 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the feveral states, and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requifite 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 the whole number 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 forty 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 fix, New-Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland fix, Virginia ten, North-Carolina five, South-Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the representation from any state, the Executive authority thereof fhall iffue writs of election to fill fuch vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other officers; and the shall have the fole power of impeachment.

Sect. 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each state, chofen by the legislature thereof, for fix 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 fecond year, of the fecond class at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third class at the expiration of the fixth year, so that one-third may be chosen every second year: and if vacancies happen by refignation, or otherwife, during the recess of the Legislature of

To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises; to pay the debts and provide for the com-To borrow money on the credit of the United States. Let all duties, uniforty and excite shall be To borrow money on the credit of the United States.

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, 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 counterseiting 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 offences against the law of nations. To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprifal, and make rules concerning captures on

land and water. To raife 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 cailing forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, suppress infurrections and repel invafions,

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, referving to the States respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the difcipline prescribed by Congress.

Sect. 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 fame term, be elected to the san follow

Each state shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of elecexecutors, equal to the whole number of fenators and representatives to which the state may be entitled in Congress: but no senator or representative , for perfon holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shell be appointed an Elector

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, 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, is such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have fuch 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 lift the said house shall in like manner shoose 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. In every case, after the choice of the president by the per-son 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 choose from them by ballot the vice-prefident.

The Congress may determine the time of chusing the electors, and which the which they

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 refident within the United States.



- » What does the preamble say about the United States?
- » What impact did the Virginia plan have on the Constitution?
- » How did changes to the Virginia Plan impact the format of the government?

What documents lead to the phrase that opens the Constitution?



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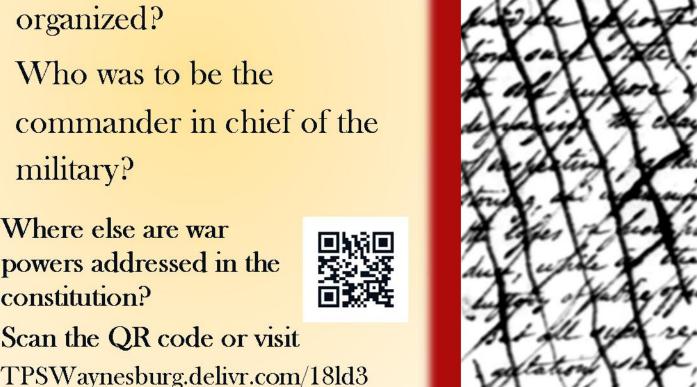


- » Why did individuals have reservations about taxation?
- » Why was the three-fifths compromise so controversial?

What influenced the way that taxation would be handled in the constitution?



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Executive

- Where did the idea of the executive branch come from?
- » What were the concerns about having an individual lead the nation?
- How does the Constitution address these concerns?

What influenced the formation of the executive branch?



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War Powers

» How was the military to be

organized?

» Who was to be the

Representation

» Have changes been made to

» How was representation

the requirements of a

determined?

representative?

What influenced this

kind of representation?

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