

THE TRICENTENNIAL CONSTITUTION OF

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A DRAFT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE 0	THE TRICENTENNIAL CONSTITUTION OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.....	4
<i>SECTION 0.1</i>	<i>THE PREAMBLE</i>	<i>4</i>
ARTICLE 1	THE LEGISLATURE.....	4
<i>SECTION 1.1</i>	<i>VESTING IN THE LEGISLATURE.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>SECTION 1.2</i>	<i>COMPOSITION OF CONGRESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>SECTION 1.3</i>	<i>COMPOSITION OF CONGRESS, SENATE.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>SECTION 1.4</i>	<i>ELECTIONS AND SESSIONS OF CONGRESS.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>SECTION 1.5</i>	<i>PROCEDURES OF CONGRESS.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>SECTION 1.6</i>	<i>REMUNERATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS IN CONGRESS</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>SECTION 1.7</i>	<i>PROCESS OF LEGISLATION.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>SECTION 1.8</i>	<i>POWERS OF CONGRESS</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>SECTION 1.9</i>	<i>RESTRICTIONS ON THE LEGISLATURE AND LAW MAKING</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>SECTION 1.10</i>	<i>RESTRICTIONS ON STATES</i>	<i>11</i>
ARTICLE 2	THE EXECUTIVE.....	11
<i>SECTION 2.1</i>	<i>VESTING IN THE EXECUTIVE</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>SECTION 2.2</i>	<i>ELECTION AND SUCCESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>SECTION 2.3</i>	<i>POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>SECTION 2.4</i>	<i>DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>SECTION 2.5</i>	<i>REMOVAL FROM OFFICE</i>	<i>15</i>
ARTICLE 3	THE JUDICIARY.....	16
<i>SECTION 3.1</i>	<i>VESTING IN THE JUDICIARY.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>SECTION 3.2</i>	<i>POWERS OF THE JUDICIARY.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>SECTION 3.3</i>	<i>TREASON AND THE JUDICIARY.....</i>	<i>17</i>
ARTICLE 4	THE STATES.....	17
<i>SECTION 4.1</i>	<i>FAITH AND CREDIT OF STATES.....</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>SECTION 4.2</i>	<i>COMITY OF STATES.....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>SECTION 4.3</i>	<i>ADMISSION AND PROPERTY OF STATES.....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>SECTION 4.4</i>	<i>GUARANTEE TO STATES.....</i>	<i>18</i>
ARTICLE 5	THE PEOPLE	18
<i>SECTION 5.1</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND THOUGHT</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>SECTION 5.2</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO DEFENSE AND PROTECTION</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>SECTION 5.3</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO SERVICES OF JUSTICE.....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>SECTION 5.4</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO DUE NOTICE</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>SECTION 5.5</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS.....</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>SECTION 5.6</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.....</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>SECTION 5.7</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS IN CIVIL PROCEEDINGS</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>SECTION 5.8</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS IN PUNISHMENT.....</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>SECTION 5.9</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO LIFE.....</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>SECTION 5.10</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO RESPECT FOR AUTONOMY.....</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>SECTION 5.11</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY.....</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>SECTION 5.12</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO RESPECT FOR AUTONOMY.....</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>SECTION 5.13</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO PRIVATE PROPERTY AND WORK</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>SECTION 5.14</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO CITIZENSHIP</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>SECTION 5.15</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE.....</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>SECTION 5.16</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO ADVOCACY.....</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>SECTION 5.17</i>	<i>PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO SERVICES OF EDUCATION.....</i>	<i>25</i>

SECTION 5.18	PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO SERVICES OF HEALTH.....	25
SECTION 5.19	PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO EQUALITY OF LAW.....	26
SECTION 5.20	PEOPLE'S UNENUMERATED RIGHTS.....	26
ARTICLE 6	THE LAW.....	27
SECTION 6.1	OBLIGATIONS OF GOVERNMENT.....	27
SECTION 6.2	SUPREMACY OF LAW.....	27
SECTION 6.3	OATHS OF OFFICE.....	27
SECTION 6.4	AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION.....	28
SECTION 6.5	RATIFYING THE CONSTITUTION.....	28
ARTICLE 7	THE AMENDMENTS	28
SECTION 7.1	AMENDMENT I.....	28
SECTION 7.2	AMENDMENT II.....	28
SECTION 7.3	AMENDMENT III.....	28
SECTION 7.4	AMENDMENT IV.....	28
SECTION 7.5	AMENDMENT V.....	28
SECTION 7.6	AMENDMENT VI.....	29
SECTION 7.7	AMENDMENT VII.....	29
SECTION 7.8	AMENDMENT VIII.....	29
SECTION 7.9	AMENDMENT IX.....	29
SECTION 7.10	AMENDMENT X.....	29
SECTION 7.11	AMENDMENT XI.....	29
SECTION 7.12	AMENDMENT XII.....	29
SECTION 7.13	AMENDMENT XIII.....	30
SECTION 7.14	AMENDMENT XIV.....	30
SECTION 7.15	AMENDMENT XV.....	31
SECTION 7.16	AMENDMENT XVI.....	31
SECTION 7.17	AMENDMENT XVII.....	31
SECTION 7.18	AMENDMENT XVIII.....	31
SECTION 7.19	AMENDMENT XIX.....	32
SECTION 7.20	AMENDMENT XX.....	32
SECTION 7.21	AMENDMENT XXI.....	32
SECTION 7.22	AMENDMENT XXII.....	33
SECTION 7.23	AMENDMENT XXIII.....	33
SECTION 7.24	AMENDMENT XXIV.....	33
SECTION 7.25	AMENDMENT XXV.....	33
SECTION 7.26	AMENDMENT XXVI.....	34
SECTION 7.27	AMENDMENT XXVII.....	34
SECTION 7.28	AMENDMENT XXVIII (PROPOSED).....	34

END OF TABLE OF CONTENTS AND PREFATORY SECTION

ARTICLE 0 THE TRICENTENNIAL CONSTITUTION OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SECTION 0.1 THE PREAMBLE

Clause 0.1.0 *We the People*

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, 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 1 THE LEGISLATURE

SECTION 1.1 VESTING IN THE LEGISLATURE

Clause 1.1.1 *Congressional Vesting*

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 1.2 COMPOSITION OF CONGRESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Clause 1.2.1 *House Composition*

The House of Representatives shall be composed of Representatives from districts within each State drawn to represent approximately equal proportions of the people, elected by the people thereof, every two years, via direct voting in elections; thus the electors of Representatives shall be voters. The voters in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for voters of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

Clause 1.2.2 *House Vote*

Each Representative shall have one vote.

Clause 1.2.3 *House Qualification*

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, by the time of taking of oath of office, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State in which the Representative shall be chosen. No person shall be eligible for election as Representative who has been constitutionally disqualified from holding such office through impeachment and conviction or disability due to insurrection or rebellion. No person shall be elected as Representative for more than twelve terms; and any person who has held the Office of Representative, or acted as Representative, for more than one year of a term to which some other person was elected Representative, shall be considered to have served a full term for the purposes of term limits.

Clause 1.2.4 *House Seats*

Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States of this union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding the whole number of persons in each State. 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 Congress 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.

Clause 1.2.5 *House Officers*

The House of Representatives shall choose its Speaker and other Officers of the House of Representatives.

- Clause 1.2.6 *House Vacancies*
When vacancies happen, by resignation or otherwise, in the representation from any State in the House of Representatives, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.
- Clause 1.2.7 *House Disability Self-Declaration*
Whenever a Representative transmits to the Speaker of the House of Representatives a written self-declaration of inability to discharge the powers and duties of the Office of Representative, and until the Representative transmits a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Speaker of the House of Representatives as an Acting Representative.
- Clause 1.2.8 *House Disability Officer-Declaration*
Whenever an Officer of the House of Representatives and a majority of either the members of a Representative's staff or of such other body as the House of Representatives may by law provide, transmit to the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that a Representative is unable to discharge the powers and duties of the Office of Representative, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the Office as an Acting Representative. Thereafter, when the Representative transmits to the Speaker of the House of Representatives a written declaration that no inability exists, the Representative shall resume the powers and duties of the Office of Representative unless an Officer of the House of Representatives and a majority of either the members of the Representative's staff or of such other body as the House of Representatives may by law provide, transmit within four days to the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the Representative is unable to discharge the powers and duties of the Office of Representative. Thereupon the House of Representatives shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the House, within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if the House is not in session, within twenty-one days after the House is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of the Chamber that the Representative is unable to discharge the powers and duties of the Office of Representative, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall continue to discharge the same as Acting Representative; otherwise, the Representative shall resume the powers and duties of the Office.
- Clause 1.2.9 *House Impeachment*
The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment.

SECTION 1.3 COMPOSITION OF CONGRESS, SENATE

- Clause 1.3.1 *Senate Composition*
The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years, via direct voting in elections; thus the electors of the Senators shall be voters. The voters in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for voters of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.
- Clause 1.3.2 *Senate Vote*
Each Senator shall have one vote.
- Clause 1.3.3 *Senate Qualification*
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, by the time of taking of oath of office, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State in which the Senator shall be chosen. No person shall be eligible for election as Senator who has been constitutionally disqualified from holding such office through impeachment and conviction or disability

due to insurrection or rebellion. No person shall be elected as Senator for more than four terms; and any person who has held the Office of Senator, or acted as Senator, for more than three years of a term to which some other person was elected Senator, shall be considered to have served a full term for the purposes of term limits.

Clause 1.3.4 *Senate Seats*

The Senate shall be a continuous body of staggered elections; therefore, immediately after the Senate shall be assembled in consequence of the first or a reconstituting election, the Senate 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.

Clause 1.3.5 *Senate Officers*

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

Clause 1.3.6 *Senate Vacancies*

When vacancies happen, by resignation or otherwise, 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.

SECTION 1.4 ELECTIONS AND SESSIONS OF CONGRESS

Clause 1.4.1 *Congressional Elections*

The times, places, and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives shall be prescribed in each State by the legislature thereof; but Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations.

Clause 1.4.2 *Congressional Sessions*

Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the third day of January, unless Congress shall by law appoint a different day. The terms of Senators and Representatives shall end at noon on the 3d day of January of the years in which such terms shall end; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

SECTION 1.5 PROCEDURES OF CONGRESS

Clause 1.5.1 *Congressional Judgment of Elections*

Each Chamber of Congress shall be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members.

Clause 1.5.2 *Congressional Quorum*

A majority of each Chamber of Congress 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 Chamber may provide.

Clause 1.5.3 *Congressional Rules Making*

Each Chamber of Congress may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member.

Clause 1.5.4 *Congressional Records Keeping*

Each Chamber of Congress shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may in its judgment require secrecy; and the

yeas and nays of the members of either Chamber on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

Clause 1.5.5 *Congressional Rules Making*

Each Chamber of Congress may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member.

Clause 1.5.6 *Congressional Adjournment*

Neither Chamber of Congress, 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 Chambers shall be sitting.

SECTION 1.6 REMUNERATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS IN CONGRESS

Clause 1.6.1 *Congressional Remunerations*

Each Senator and Representative shall, at stated times, receive for congressional services, a compensation to be ascertained by law and paid out of the Treasury of the United States, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the term for which the Senator or Representative shall have been elected; and no Senator or Representative shall receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of the States. No law, varying the compensation for the services of a Member of Congress shall take effect, until a subsequent election for the seat of the Member of Congress shall have intervened.

Clause 1.6.2 *Congressional Privileges and Immunities*

The Senators and Representatives 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 Chambers of Congress, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either Chamber, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

Clause 1.6.3 *Congressional Office Restrictions*

No Senator or Representative shall, during the term of election for Congress, 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, during continuance in such office, be a member of either Chamber of Congress.

SECTION 1.7 PROCESS OF LEGISLATION

Clause 1.7.1 *Bill Origination*

Bills may be proposed, amended or agreed via concurrence in either Chamber of Congress; except all bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, being the Chamber most responsive to the people; to such bills the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

Clause 1.7.2 *Bill Presentment*

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.

Clause 1.7.3 *Bill Review*

If, upon presidential review, the bill meets approval, the President shall sign it, but if not the President shall return it, with objections to that Chamber of Congress in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on its journal, and proceed to reconsider the bill.

- Clause 1.7.4 *Bill Reconsideration*
If after such reconsideration two-thirds of the originating Chamber shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the non-originating Chamber, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of the non-originating Chamber, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both Chambers 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 Chamber respectively.
- Clause 1.7.5 *Bill Inactivity*
If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if the President had signed it; unless Congress by adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.
- Clause 1.7.6 *Bill Proceedings*
Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary for the making of bills or equivalent law (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 the President, or being disapproved, 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 1.8 POWERS OF CONGRESS

- Clause 1.8.1 *Congressional Taxing Powers*
Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes. Direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States, according to census or enumeration; except 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. Congress shall have power to lay and collect indirect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises; but all duties, imposts, and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.
- Clause 1.8.2 *Congressional Spending Powers*
Congress shall have power to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States.
- Clause 1.8.3 *Congressional Borrowing Powers*
Congress shall have power to borrow money on the credit of the United States.
- Clause 1.8.4 *Congressional Commerce Powers*
Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indigenous tribes.
- Clause 1.8.5 *Congressional Uniformity Powers*
Congress shall have power to establish a uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States.
- Clause 1.8.6 *Congressional Values Powers*
Congress shall have power to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures.
- Clause 1.8.7 *Congressional Punishment Powers*
Congress shall have power to provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States; and to define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations.

- Clause 1.8.8 *Congressional Postal Powers*
Congress shall have power to establish post offices and post roads.
- Clause 1.8.9 *Congressional Proprietary Powers*
Congress shall have power to promote the progress of arts and sciences, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.
- Clause 1.8.10 *Congressional Courts Powers*
Congress shall have power to constitute Courts and tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court, and to make rules for the government and regulation of such Courts; provided all Judges of such Courts shall be under the same terms of appointment and remuneration, and shall fulfill the same judicial duties of due process, as Judges of the Supreme Court, to which such Courts shall be subject.
- Clause 1.8.11 *Congressional Commissions Powers*
Congress shall have power to grant commissions and other entities, as Congress thinks proper, for fulfilling its legislative duties, and to make rules for the government and regulation of such entities; provided that such entities do not assume names confusing to the government or public, or adjudicate matters justiciable by the Courts and tribunals.
- Clause 1.8.12 *Congressional War Powers*
Congress shall have power to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water.
- Clause 1.8.13 *Congressional Military Powers*
Congress shall have power to raise and support armies, provide and maintain an air force and navy, no appropriation of money to such use being for a longer term than two years; and to make rules for the government and regulation of the military, including air, land and naval armed forces.
- Clause 1.8.14 *Congressional Militia Powers*
Congress shall have power to provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions; for organizing, arming, and disciplining the Militia; and for governing such part of the Militia 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.
- Clause 1.8.15 *Congressional Enclave Powers*
Congress shall have power 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 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, arsenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings.
- Clause 1.8.16 *Congressional Necessary Powers*
Congress shall have power 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; provided that all such acts and their laws and powers shall be clearly, rationally, proportionately and substantially related to fulfilling a legitimate purpose and role, which shall not offend the Constitution.

SECTION 1.9 RESTRICTIONS ON THE LEGISLATURE AND LAW MAKING

Clause 1.9.1 *Congressional Migration Restriction*

The prohibition by Congress of the migration or importation of persons in any of the States shall be permitted after the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, and shall be conducted and enforced throughout the land from the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five.

Clause 1.9.2 *Congressional Writ Restriction*

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.

Clause 1.9.3 *Congressional Punishment Restriction*

No bill of attainder or ex post facto law shall be passed; especially where the effect is, retroactively, an increase in liability, a punishment, or a trial by legislature.

Clause 1.9.4 *Congressional Taxation Restriction*

No capitation or other direct tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken; except taxes on income herein described; and no duty or other indirect tax shall be laid on articles exported from any State.

Clause 1.9.5 *Congressional Ports Restriction*

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.

Clause 1.9.6 *Congressional Appropriations Restriction*

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.

Clause 1.9.7 *Congressional Budgets Restriction*

No budget plan or bill for any fiscal year shall not include a justification for public money or equivalent funding proposed for each department, agency, or other entity; including a justification of each line item in the budget for the entity, based upon its effect on carrying out the mission of the entity and its effect, if any, on the gross domestic product of the United States; an equivalent line-item justification of funds retained or spent, and their actual effects, from prior years for the entity; an equivalent line-item justification of any increase in budget from prior years for the entity; and an additional funding level below the requested number that would allow the entity to complete all of its critical mission functions. Such justifications shall be used by Congress and the President to submit and sign budgets where total expenditures for a fiscal year shall not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year, unless a two-thirds vote of both Chambers provide by law for a specific exception and excess of expenditures over receipts; provided that any consequent addition to the public debt shall be liquidated within a period of twelve years. Final budgets, with their full justifications, shall be published and made easily accessible and traceable for the public from time to time.

Clause 1.9.8 *Congressional Emoluments Restriction*

No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States; and no person holding any office of government, profit, or trust under the United States, or any State, whether appointed or elected, shall, without the consent of Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign state.

Clause 1.9.9 *Congressional Insurrection Restriction*
No person shall be a Senator or Representative, 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 remove such disability by a two-thirds vote of both Chambers.

SECTION 1.10 RESTRICTIONS ON STATES

Clause 1.10.1 *State Relations Restriction*
No State shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; or grant letters of marque and reprisal. Nor shall a State, without the consent of Congress, 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.

Clause 1.10.2 *State Duties Restriction*
No State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duties of tonnage. Nor shall a State, without the consent of Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its 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 Congress.

Clause 1.10.3 *State Monetary Restriction*
No State shall coin money; emit bills of credit; make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts.

Clause 1.10.4 *State Attainder Restriction*
No State shall pass any bill of attainder or ex post facto law.

Clause 1.10.5 *State Contracts Restriction*
No State shall pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts.

Clause 1.10.6 *State Title Restriction*
No State shall grant any title of nobility.

ARTICLE 2 THE EXECUTIVE

SECTION 2.1 VESTING IN THE EXECUTIVE

Clause 2.1.1 *Executive Vesting*
The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. The President may seek the advice and assistance of the Vice President, and such principal and inferior Offices as Congress may from time to time ordain and establish.

SECTION 2.2 ELECTION AND SUCCESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Clause 2.2.1 *Executive Election Terms*
The President and the Vice President shall hold office during the term of four years. Each term shall end at noon on the 20th day of January of the year in which such term shall end; and the term of their successors shall then begin. The President, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same term, shall be elected, every four years, by the people of the United States, via indirect voting by voters and direct balloting by Electors of the President and Vice President, in elections held in their respective States. The voters

in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for voters of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

Clause 2.2.2 *Executive Electors Appointment*

Each State shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of Electors, of the President and Vice President, equal to its Congressional delegation, which is the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in Congress. The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as Congress may direct a number of Electors equal to the Congressional delegation to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State. The total number of Electors shall therefore be those of the District in addition to those of the States. The Electors shall be independent from any political faction or party and pledged to honor the certified results of elections by qualified voters in each State. No Senator or Representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

Clause 2.2.3 *Executive Electoral Count*

The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and in each State shall vote by ballot for President and Vice President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of their same State. The Electors 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 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.

Clause 2.2.4 *Executive Electoral Contingency*

If no person has such required majority of votes as President, 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 no person has such required majority of votes as Vice President, 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. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of the elected 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 Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect 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.

Clause 2.2.5 *Executive Electoral Times*

Congress may determine the time of choosing the Electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

- Clause 2.2.6 *Executive Qualification*
No person shall be eligible to the Office of President or Vice President who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years and been thirty-five years a citizen of, and resident in, the United States, by the time of taking of oath of office. No person shall be eligible to the Office of President or Vice President who has been constitutionally disqualified from holding such office through impeachment and conviction or disability due to insurrection or rebellion. No person shall be elected to the Office of 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.
- Clause 2.2.7 *Executive Vacancy*
Whenever there is a vacancy in the Office of President, due to death, resignation, or removal, the Vice President shall become the President. 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 Chambers of Congress.
- Clause 2.2.8 *Executive Disability Self-Declaration*
Whenever the President transmits to the president pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a written self-declaration of inability to discharge the powers and duties of the Office of President, and until the President transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.
- Clause 2.2.9 *Executive Disability Officer-Declaration*
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 tempore 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 the Office of President, 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 tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a written declaration that no inability exists, the President shall resume the powers and duties of the Office of President unless the Vice 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 tempore 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 the Office of President. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If 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 Chambers that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of the Office of President, the Vice President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of the Office.
- Clause 2.2.10 *Executive Oath*
Before entering on the execution of the Office of President, the person to assume office 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.

Clause 2.2.11 *Executive Remuneration*

The President shall, at stated times, receive for presidential services, a compensation to be ascertained by law and paid out of the Treasury of the United States, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the term for which the President shall have been elected, and the President shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of the States.

SECTION 2.3 POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Clause 2.3.1 *Executive Commander Powers*

The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Military of the United States, including the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual service of the United States.

Clause 2.3.2 *Executive Opinions Powers*

The President 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.

Clause 2.3.3 *Executive Clemency Powers*

The President shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of an independent commission of clemency reviewers established for such purpose, to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States; provided two-thirds of the members of the commission present concur; and the cases not include impeachment; nor any of the acts, administration, employees, family, or friends of the President currently in office; nor conditions which offend the Constitution.

Clause 2.3.4 *Executive Treaties Powers*

The President shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make and decide treaties and equivalent agreements on foreign affairs, provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur.

Clause 2.3.5 *Judicial Appointments Powers*

The President shall have power to nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint Judges of the courts of law, including the one Supreme Court, a set of Federal Courts, and all other inferior Courts, provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur. If any nomination by the President shall not be voted on by the Senate within three months of its communication to the Senate, the nominee shall be deemed appointed, in like manner as if the Senate had advised, consented, and concurred. Congress shall by law vest the appointment of all Judges in the courts of law.

Clause 2.3.6 *Officer Appointments Powers*

The President shall have power to nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and all other Officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law; but Congress may by law vest the appointment of inferior Officers, to be administratively overseen by principal Officers, as Congress thinks proper; in the President alone, the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

Clause 2.3.7 *Recess Appointments Powers*

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 the Senate's next session.

Clause 2.3.8 *Executive Necessary Powers*
The President shall have powers which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, the laws made by Congress, and all other laws vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States; provided that all such acts and their laws and powers shall be clearly, rationally, proportionately and substantially related to fulfilling a legitimate purpose and role, which shall not offend the Constitution.

SECTION 2.4 DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE

Clause 2.4.1 *Executive Informing Duties*
The President shall from time to time give to Congress information on the State of the Union and shall recommend to Congressional consideration such measures as the President shall judge necessary and expedient.

Clause 2.4.2 *Executive Convening Duties*
The President may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Chambers of Congress, or either of them; and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, the President may adjourn them to such time as the President shall think proper.

Clause 2.4.3 *Executive Diplomacy Duties*
The President shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers, shall be entrusted with diplomatic matters, and shall have authority over the recognition of foreign sovereigns and their territorial bounds.

Clause 2.4.4 *Executive Care Duties*
The President shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, which shall entail the judicious exercise of privileges and immunities, as are necessary and proper for fulfilling such duties of the Office.

Clause 2.4.5 *Executive Officer Duties*
The President shall commission all the Officers of the United States and shall appoint, supervise, and be able to remove those inferior Officers vested in the President alone and not requiring the concurrence of the Senate.

SECTION 2.5 REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Clause 2.5.1 *Executive Impeachment*
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 and shall thus be disqualified to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Clause 2.5.2 *Executive Insurrection*
No person shall be a President or Vice President, or an Elector of the President or 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 remove such disability by a two-thirds vote of both Chambers.

ARTICLE 3 THE JUDICIARY

SECTION 3.1 VESTING IN THE JUDICIARY

Clause 3.1.1 *Judicial Vesting*

The judicial power of the United States shall be vested in one Supreme Court, a set of Federal Courts attending to regions of the United States, and in such other inferior Courts as Congress may from time to time ordain and establish.

Clause 3.1.2 *Judicial Tenure*

The Judges, both of the Supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good behavior, and shall be appointed for the equivalent of life tenure, subject only to impeachment, resignation, retirement, or death.

Clause 3.1.3 *Judicial Remuneration*

The Judges shall, at stated times, receive for judicial services, a compensation to be ascertained by law and paid out of the Treasury of the United States, which shall not be diminished during continuance in Office; and no Judge shall receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of the States.

SECTION 3.2 POWERS OF THE JUDICIARY

Clause 3.2.1 *Judicial Review Powers*

The judicial power shall include a duty to review the actions, laws, and judicial decisions of the United States, and the States, and determine their accordance with the law and this Constitution; with an attendant duty to consider and confer retroactivity of decisions, where appropriate and proper for administering justice. In all cases and controversies where a private entity or person is affected by an action or law of the United States, or any of the States, the governmental party shall, at a minimum, have the basic burden to prove to the Courts that the action or law in question is clearly, rationally, proportionately and substantially related to fulfilling a legitimate purpose and role of government, which evidence shall show government via such proportionate means regularly and typically fulfills, throughout the United States, or the State, more effectively than other entities or persons; and where the effect of the action or law in question additionally infringes on a fundamental liberty or right of a private entity or person, especially any liberty or right enumerated in this fifth Article of the Constitution, the governmental party shall, at a minimum, have the additional burden to prove to the Courts that the action or law in question is clearly, rationally, proportionately, substantially related to, and strictly necessary for, fulfilling a necessary purpose and role of government, which evidence shall show government via such least infringing means regularly and typically must, by necessity, fulfill itself, and not any other entity or person.

Clause 3.2.2 *Justiciable Cases Powers*

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, actually or imminently, persons under such authority, laws, treaties, and government; including to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls; and to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction.

Clause 3.2.3 *Justiciable Controversies Powers*

The judicial power shall extend 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; 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.

- Clause 3.2.4 *Jurisdiction Powers*
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 Congress shall make.
- Clause 3.2.5 *Judicial Trial Powers*
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 Congress may by law have directed.
- Clause 3.2.6 *Judicial Convening Powers*
The Courts shall have power to convene and determine the times of meetings, including schedules and sessions, provided such times are reasonable and in places Congress may by law have directed.
- Clause 3.2.7 *Judicial Proceedings Powers*
The Courts shall have power to govern and regulate the internal affairs, procedures, and proceedings of the Courts, the Judges, and the judiciary of the United States.
- Clause 3.2.8 *Judicial Necessary Powers*
The Courts shall have powers which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and for interpreting and applying the laws made by the United States, and the States, and all other laws vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States; provided that all such acts and their laws and powers shall be clearly, rationally, proportionately and substantially related to fulfilling a legitimate purpose and role, which shall not offend the Constitution.

SECTION 3.3 TREASON AND THE JUDICIARY

- Clause 3.3.1 *Meaning of Treason*
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.
- Clause 3.3.2 *Punishment of Treason*
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.

ARTICLE 4 THE STATES

SECTION 4.1 FAITH AND CREDIT OF STATES

- Clause 4.1.1 *States Faith and Credit*
Full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other State. And Congress may by general laws prescribe the manner in which such acts, records, and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

SECTION 4.2 COMITY OF STATES

Clause 4.2.1 *States Privileges and Immunities*

The citizens of each State shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States. And no State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States.

Clause 4.2.2 *States Sovereign Immunity*

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.

Clause 4.2.3 *States Extradition*

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.

Clause 4.2.4 *States Non-Bondage*

No bondage of person to service or labor shall be upheld by the United States, or any State; and no person held to service or labor in one State, in consequence of any law or regulation thereof, traveling into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be held to such service or labor, nor be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.

SECTION 4.3 ADMISSION AND PROPERTY OF STATES

Clause 4.3.1 *States Admission*

New States may be admitted by Congress into this Union, on an equal footing with the original States; 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 Congress.

Clause 4.3.2 *States Property*

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 4.4 GUARANTEE TO STATES

Clause 4.4.1 *States Republican Guarantee*

The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a republican form of government.

Clause 4.4.2 *States Protection Guarantee*

The United States shall protect each of the States against invasion; and against domestic violence on application of the legislature, or of the executive when the legislature cannot be convened.

ARTICLE 5 THE PEOPLE

SECTION 5.1 PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND THOUGHT

Clause 5.1.1 *Declaration*

The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to freedom of speech and thought.

- Clause 5.1.2 *Including*
The rights to freedom of speech shall include the rights to freedom of peaceable assembly and association; of expression and exchange; of information and the press.
- Clause 5.1.3 *Including*
The rights to freedom of thought shall include the rights to freedom of cognition, as the free exercise of mind and inquiry; and the rights to freedom of conscience, as the free exercise of religion and spirituality.
- Clause 5.1.4 *Including*
The rights to freedom of speech shall include the right to not have government make any acts or laws engaging in editorial judgment on either discussion or expression, especially the arts, ideas, or views of persons; nor shall government censor, compel, or conditionally constrain press or publishing, or other media, due to the speech's content or speaker.
- Clause 5.1.5 *Including*
The rights to freedom of thought shall include the right to not have government make any acts or laws engaging in establishment of religion or spirituality; nor shall government fund or favor any belief or faith, especially one over any other.
- Clause 5.1.6 *Including*
The rights to freedom of thought shall include the absolute right to not have government make any acts or laws engaging in encroachment on any person's mind, its contents or cognitions, faculties or functionings; nor shall government coerce, intrude, or surveil, nor adjudicate any controversies over any mind, even when offered as evidence for any case.
- Clause 5.1.7 *Protection*
Such rights to freedom of speech and thought shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.
- SECTION 5.2 PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO DEFENSE AND PROTECTION**
- Clause 5.2.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to defense and protection of persons, papers, properties, and effects.
- Clause 5.2.2 *Including*
The rights to defense and protection shall, given the necessity of a well regulated militia to the security of a free State, include the right to keep and bear arms.
- Clause 5.2.3 *Including*
The rights to defense and protection shall, given the necessity of protective professions to the security of persons, include the right to the means and services of such professions.
- Clause 5.2.4 *Including*
The rights to defense and protection shall, given the necessity of government safeguards to the security of persons, include the right to a form of democratic government both constrained by and providing for liberty and civil liberties.
- Clause 5.2.5 *Protecting*
Such rights to defense and protection shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.3 PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO SERVICES OF JUSTICE

Clause 5.3.1 *Declaring*

The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to services of justice, specifically of the Courts and the law.

Clause 5.3.2 *Including*

The rights to services of justice shall entail the rights to a justice system that is free, fair and representative, including rights to seek and pursue justice before the Courts and equivalent Offices of the United States, and the several State; to present claims and complaints to adjudicators and administrators of the law; and to petition such adjudicators and administrators for redress of grievances and infringements; through means that are protective of rights, equally accessible and provided for, primarily, by government.

Clause 5.3.3 *Including*

The rights to services of justice shall entail the right for justice to be adjudicated and administered by Offices of the Courts and the law filled not through election but through nomination, appointment and periodic review by, respectively, the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government.

Clause 5.3.4 *Protecting*

Such rights to services of justice shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.4 PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO DUE NOTICE

Clause 5.4.1 *Declaring*

The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to due notice of law.

Clause 5.4.2 *Including*

The rights to due notice shall entail the right to due notice to the law, including the Courts, of investigations by government affecting the rights of persons; and the right to due notice by the law of any actions taken by government further affecting such rights.

Clause 5.4.3 *Including*

The rights to due notice shall include the rights of people to be secure in their persons, papers, properties, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures by government, without notice of warrant.

Clause 5.4.4 *Including*

The rights to due notice shall include the right to not have any warrants 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.

Clause 5.4.5 *Including*

The rights to due notice shall include the right for the persons affected to be fully informed, of such warrants and their rights, whenever any search or seizure is in effect or has occurred.

Clause 5.4.6 *Including*

The rights to due notice shall include the right for the people of the United States, and the several States, to periodically receive from government accessible, clear and detailed guidance, and other reliable information, regarding procedures of deliberation and decision leading, generally, to investigations and actions affecting their rights and security in persons, papers, properties, and effects.

Clause 5.4.7 *Protecting*
Such rights to due notice of law shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.5 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS

Clause 5.5.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to due process of law.

Clause 5.5.2 *Including*
The rights to due process shall include rights to not be held to answer for a felony crime or similar offense without an indictment of a preliminary jury or judicial hearing, nor be twice put in jeopardy of liberty or property when subject for the same crime or offense, nor be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against self, nor have private property be taken for public use without just compensation, nor be deprived of any liberty or property without full and rigorous due process of law.

Clause 5.5.3 *Protecting*
Such rights to due process of law shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.6 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

Clause 5.6.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights in criminal proceedings.

Clause 5.6.2 *Including*
The rights in criminal proceedings shall include that, in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the rights 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.

Clause 5.6.3 *Including*
The rights in criminal proceedings shall include that, in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the rights 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 the accused’s defense.

Clause 5.6.4 *Protecting*
Such rights in criminal proceedings shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.7 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS IN CIVIL PROCEEDINGS

Clause 5.7.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights in civil proceedings.

Clause 5.7.2 *Including*
The rights in civil proceedings shall include that, 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.

Clause 5.7.3 *Protecting*
Such rights in civil proceedings shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.8 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS IN PUNISHMENT

Clause 5.8.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights in punishment.

Clause 5.8.2 *Including*
The rights in punishment shall include the right to have no government mete out excessive or disproportionate punishment, nor have excessive bail be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishments inflicted on any person.

Clause 5.8.3 *Including*
The rights in punishment shall include the right to have no condition of confinement or interrogation result in cruel or inhumane treatment of any person, nor in inadequate provision of care or safety, nor in detriment to physical or psychological health, nor in enhancement or exacerbation of a sentence given.

Clause 5.8.4 *Protecting*
Such rights in punishment shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.9 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO LIFE

Clause 5.9.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to life.

Clause 5.9.2 *Including*
The rights to life shall include the right for each person to, in all cases and circumstances, be treated as a full human being, worthy of the life given.

Clause 5.9.3 *Including*
The rights to life shall include the right to a justice system that shall admit error to be inevitable, where irreversible, unconscionably unjust; and so shall not deprive any person of life through any judicial process or proceeding, judgment, order, or sentence; protecting, instead, the absolute right to have neither capital punishment nor death penalty be given or exist within the United States, any State, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Clause 5.9.4 *Protecting*
Such rights to life shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.10 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO RESPECT FOR AUTONOMY

Clause 5.10.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to respect for autonomy.

Clause 5.10.2 *Including*
The rights to respect for autonomy shall include rights to consent being informed, meaningful and freely given; to decision-making being independent when competent; to dignity in personhood; and to liberty of individuals and relations.

Clause 5.10.3 *Protecting*
Such rights respect for autonomy shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.11 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY

Clause 5.11.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to confidentiality and privacy.

Clause 5.11.2 *Including*
The rights to confidentiality and privacy shall include the right to have personal and professional affairs be and remain confidential and private, such as one’s activity, agreement, body, care, communication, conversation, data, decision, information, papers, property, relation, service, source, speech, and thought.

Clause 5.11.3 *Including*
The rights to confidentiality and privacy shall include the absolute right to confidentiality and privacy of each person’s mind, its contents and cognitions, faculties and functions.

Clause 5.11.4 *Including*
The rights to confidentiality and privacy shall include the right for each individual to be let alone and free from government and public intrusion into confidential matters and private life.

Clause 5.11.5 *Protecting*
Such rights to confidentiality and privacy shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.12 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO RESPECT FOR AUTONOMY

Clause 5.12.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have rights to respect for autonomy.

Clause 5.12.2 *Including*
The rights to respect for autonomy shall include rights to consent being informed, meaningful and freely given; to decision-making being independent when competent; to dignity in personhood; and to liberty of individuals and relations.

Clause 5.12.3 *Protecting*
Such rights respect for autonomy shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.13 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO PRIVATE PROPERTY AND WORK

Clause 5.13.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to private property and work.

Clause 5.13.2 *Including*
The rights to private property and work shall include the absolute right for an individual to not be, or be construed or used as being, the property or utility of any community, entity, person, or state.

- Clause 5.13.3 *Including*
The rights to private property and work shall include the right to have no condition of contract, employment, labor, service, wardship, or work result in cruel or inhumane treatment of any person, nor in inadequate provision of care or safety, nor in detriment to physical or psychological health, nor in abuse, discrimination, harassment, retaliation, or equivalent infringement.
- Clause 5.13.4 *Including*
The rights to private property and work shall include the rights to own and make consenting and informed decisions as to one's private property; and to seek and make consenting and informed decisions as to contract, employment, labor, service, wardship, and work.
- Clause 5.13.5 *Including*
The rights to private property and work shall include the right to exclusively create, develop, profit from, or otherwise use one's private property, especially as it pertains to effects and personal property, to home and real property, to funds and financial property, and to copyright, patent, trademark, and intellectual property.
- Clause 5.13.6 *Including*
The rights to private property and work shall include the right to have, in time of peace or war, no soldier, or other military or public officer or charge, be quartered in any house, except with the consent of the owner and in a manner to be prescribed by law.
- Clause 5.13.7 *Including*
The rights to private property and work shall include the right to not have government fund, favor, or facilitate, directly or indirectly, any anticompetitive, monopoly or equivalently infringing acts or actors.
- Clause 5.13.8 *Including*
The rights to private property and work shall include the right to not have government fund, favor, or facilitate, directly or indirectly, any discriminating, harassing, retaliating or equivalently infringing acts or actors.
- Clause 5.13.9 *Protecting*
Such rights to private property and work shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.14 PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO CITIZENSHIP

- Clause 5.14.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to citizenship.
- Clause 5.14.2 *Including*
The rights to citizenship shall include the right to have all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, be citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside.
- Clause 5.14.3 *Including*
The rights to citizenship shall include the right to have neither the United States nor any State make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States.

Clause 5.14.4 *Protecting*
Such rights to citizenship shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.15 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE

Clause 5.15.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to freedom from bondage.

Clause 5.15.2 *Including*
The rights to freedom from bondage shall include the absolute right to have neither slavery, nor involuntary servitude, nor forced labor, nor human trafficking exist within the United States, any State, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Clause 5.15.3 *Protecting*
Such rights to freedom from bondage shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.16 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO ADVOCACY

Clause 5.16.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to advocacy in government and public.

Clause 5.16.2 *Including*
The rights to advocacy shall include rights to peaceably assemble to advocate and consult for the common and public good; to present causes and interests to public officers and representatives; and to petition government for redress of grievances, through means that are free, fair and representative, equally and freely accessible and provided for, primarily, by government.

Clause 5.16.3 *Protecting*
Such rights to advocacy in government and public shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.17 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO SERVICES OF EDUCATION

Clause 5.17.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to services of education.

Clause 5.17.2 *Including*
The rights to services of education shall include the right to a basic and fundamental standard of learning, in primary, secondary and continuing education and public libraries, through means that are free, fair and representative, equally and freely accessible and provided for, sufficiently, by government.

Clause 5.17.3 *Protecting*
Such rights to services of education shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.18 PEOPLE’S RIGHTS TO SERVICES OF HEALTH

Clause 5.18.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty, shall have inalienable rights to services of health.

Clause 5.18.2 *Including*
The rights to services of health shall include the right to a basic and fundamental standard of care, in curative, palliative and preventive medicine and public health, through means that are free, fair and representative, equally and freely accessible and provided for, sufficiently, by the government.

Clause 5.18.3 *Protecting*
Such rights to services of health shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or any State.

SECTION 5.19 PEOPLE'S RIGHTS TO EQUALITY OF LAW

Clause 5.19.1 *Declaring*
The people of the United States, being persons of due liberty and due stature before the law, shall have inalienable rights to equality of law.

Clause 5.19.2 *Including*
The rights to equality of law shall include the right to have neither the United States nor any State deny to any person within their jurisdiction the equal application of the laws.

Clause 5.19.3 *Including*
The rights to equality of law shall include the right to have neither the United States nor any State deny to any person within their jurisdiction the equal opportunity via the laws.

Clause 5.19.4 *Including*
The rights to equality of law shall include the right to have neither the United States nor any State deny to any person within their jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Clause 5.19.5 *Including*
The rights to equality of law shall include the right to have neither the United States nor any State deny to any person within their jurisdiction the equal rights under the laws.

Clause 5.19.6 *Including*
The rights to equality of law shall include the right to have neither the United States nor any State deny to any person within their jurisdiction the equal treatment via the laws.

Clause 5.19.7 *Protecting*
Such rights to equality of law shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States, or by any State, on account of economic or political expediency; nor on account of actual or perceived age, disability, or health; nor caste, ethnicity, national origin, or race; nor gender or sex, including as they pertain to identity or orientation; nor political, religious or spiritual affiliation; nor military service or veteran status.

SECTION 5.20 PEOPLE'S UNENUMERATED RIGHTS

Clause 5.20.1 *Declaring*
The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Clause 5.20.2 *Including*
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.

Clause 5.20.3 *Protecting*
The due liberty, civil liberties, and civil rights enumerated in this fifth Article, unless expressly described as absolute, shall be construed as protected in the general case; with the understanding that the prohibited government acts and laws may, in the specific

case, not include adjudication or regulation where there is actual or imminent crime, harm, or other infringement.

- Clause 5.20.4 *Protecting*
Neither the United States nor any State shall in any way arrange, coerce, delegate, deputize, encourage, facilitate, incentivize, instruct, request, or otherwise engage another agent, entity, or person to conduct activity that governments are prohibited from doing by the Constitution or other law.
- Clause 5.20.5 *Protecting*
The United States, and the several States, shall determine via explicit law the case, degree, and manner by which constitutional and other legal protections against government acts and actors shall be extended as protections against private acts and actors, in furtherance of the enjoyment of constitutional and legal rights, privileges and immunities, and their protections by the people of the United States.
- Clause 5.20.6 *Protecting*
The United States, and the several States shall enforce the law against any government or private acts or actors which collude or otherwise arrange to deprive any person of the rights enumerated under this fifth Article, and the Courts shall hear and properly adjudicate such cases.
- Clause 5.20.7 *Protecting*
Such unenumerated rights, powers, and protections shall not be abridged, denied or violated by the United States or by any State.
- Clause 5.20.8 *Protecting*
This fifth Article shall be self-executing; Congress and State legislatures shall also have power to facilitate, but in no way hinder or infringe, the enforcement, operation, and provisions of this Article through appropriate legislation.

ARTICLE 6 THE LAW

SECTION 6.1 OBLIGATIONS OF GOVERNMENT

- Clause 6.1.0 *Prior Obligations*
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.

SECTION 6.2 SUPREMACY OF LAW

- Clause 6.2.1 *Legal Supremacy*
This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties and equivalent agreements 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.

SECTION 6.3 OATHS OF OFFICE

- Clause 6.3.1 *Official Oaths*
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.

SECTION 6.4 AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

Clause 6.4.1 *Amendment Requirement*

Congress, whenever two-thirds of both Chambers 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 Congress; provided that no amendment shall in any manner abolish or annul the rights of the people of the United States enumerated in the fifth Article; and that no State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

SECTION 6.5 RATIFYING THE CONSTITUTION

Clause 6.5.1 *Ratification Requirement*

The ratification of the conventions of thirty-eight States shall be sufficient for the amendment and establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the same.

ARTICLE 7 THE AMENDMENTS

SECTION 7.1 AMENDMENT I

Clause 7.1.1 *Fundamental Freedoms*

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.

SECTION 7.2 AMENDMENT II

Clause 7.2.1 *Right to Bear Arms*

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.

SECTION 7.3 AMENDMENT III

Clause 7.3.1 *Quartering Soldiers*

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.

SECTION 7.4 AMENDMENT IV

Clause 7.4.1 *Searches and Seizures*

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.

SECTION 7.5 AMENDMENT V

Clause 7.5.1 *Rights of Persons*

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.

- SECTION 7.6 AMENDMENT VI**
 Clause 7.6.1 *Rights in Criminal Prosecutions*
 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.
- SECTION 7.7 AMENDMENT VII**
 Clause 7.7.1 *Civil Trial Rights*
 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.
- SECTION 7.8 AMENDMENT VIII**
 Clause 7.8.1 *Cruel and Unusual Punishment*
 Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.
- SECTION 7.9 AMENDMENT IX**
 Clause 7.9.1 *Unenumerated Rights*
 The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.
- SECTION 7.10 AMENDMENT X**
 Clause 7.10.1 *Rights Reserved to the States and the People*
 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.
- SECTION 7.11 AMENDMENT XI**
 Clause 7.11.1 *Suits Against States*
 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.
- SECTION 7.12 AMENDMENT XII**
 Clause 7.12.1 *Election of President*
 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.

SECTION 7.13 AMENDMENT XIII

Clause 7.13.1 *Abolition of Slavery*

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.

Clause 7.13.2 *Enforcement*

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

SECTION 7.14 AMENDMENT XIV

Clause 7.14.1 *Equal Protection and Other Rights*

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.

Clause 7.14.2 *Apportionment of Representation*

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.

Clause 7.14.3 *Disqualification from Holding Office*

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.

Clause 7.14.4 *Public Debt*

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.

Clause 7.14.5 *Enforcement*

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

SECTION 7.15 AMENDMENT XV

Clause 7.15.1 *Right of Citizens to Vote*

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.

Clause 7.15.2 *Enforcement*

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

SECTION 7.16 AMENDMENT XVI

Clause 7.16.1 *Income Tax*

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.

SECTION 7.17 AMENDMENT XVII

Clause 7.17.1 *Popular Election of Senators*

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.

Clause 7.17.2 *Vacancy of Senators*

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.

Clause 7.17.3 *Effect*

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.

SECTION 7.18 AMENDMENT XVIII

Clause 7.18.1 *Prohibition of Liquor*

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.

Clause 7.18.2 *Enforcement*

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

Clause 7.18.3 *Effect*

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.

SECTION 7.19 AMENDMENT XIX

Clause 7.19.1 *Women's Suffrage*

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.

Clause 7.19.2 *Enforcement*

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

SECTION 7.20 AMENDMENT XX

Clause 7.20.1 *Presidential Term*

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.

Clause 7.20.2 *Meetings of Congress*

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.

Clause 7.20.3 *Presidential Succession*

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 elect 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.

Clause 7.20.4 *Congress and Presidential Succession*

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.

Clause 7.20.5 *Effective Date*

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

Clause 7.20.6 *Ratification*

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.

SECTION 7.21 AMENDMENT XXI

Clause 7.21.1 *Repeal of Prohibition*

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

Clause 7.21.2 *Importation, Transportation, and Sale of Liquor*
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.

Clause 7.21.3 *Ratification*
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.

SECTION 7.22 AMENDMENT XXII

Clause 7.22.1 *Presidential Term Limits*
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 the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by the 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.

Clause 7.22.2 *Ratification*
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.

SECTION 7.23 AMENDMENT XXIII

Clause 7.23.1 *District of Columbia Electors*
The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the 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.

Clause 7.23.2 *Enforcement*
The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

SECTION 7.24 AMENDMENT XXIV

Clause 7.24.1 *Abolition of Poll Tax*
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 any poll tax or other tax.

Clause 7.24.2 *Enforcement*
The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

SECTION 7.25 AMENDMENT XXV

Clause 7.25.1 *Presidential Vacancy*
In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

Clause 7.25.2 *Vice Presidential Vacancy*

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.

Clause 7.25.3 *Declaration by President*

Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the 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.

Clause 7.25.4 *Declaration by Vice President and Others*

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 tempore 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, 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 tempore 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 Vice 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 tempore 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.

SECTION 7.26 AMENDMENT XXVI

Clause 7.26.1 *Reduction of Voting Age*

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.

Clause 7.26.2 *Enforcement*

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

SECTION 7.27 AMENDMENT XXVII

Clause 7.27.1 *Congressional Compensation*

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

SECTION 7.28 AMENDMENT XXVIII (PROPOSED)

Clause 7.28.1 *General Amendment of the Constitution*

Congress, when two-thirds of both Chambers agree, shall propose the amendments in the above revised Articles I-VI, collectively, as a General Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America, or, on the application of the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several States, shall call a convention for the sole purpose of discussing and proposing this General Amendment of the Constitution.

Clause 7.28.2 *Ratification Requirement*

This General Amendment of the Constitution shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as the Constitution of the United States of America, 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 Congress.

Clause 7.28.3 *Effectiveness*

This General Amendment of the Constitution shall be inoperative unless it shall have been successfully ratified as described above.

Draft by: Alvan A Ikoku, MD, PhD

Date: January 20, 2025

Annotated version at:

<https://usa-constitution.com>