

Only one answer below for this page, telling the date that the 9th colony ratified the Constitution!

OUTLINE OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

3

Articles: **LEJ - SA \$ R**

Six concepts in the Preamble define the purposes of the Constitution.

Amendments: **Bill of Rights and 17 more = 27**

PREAMBLE: We the people of the United States, in order to form a more **perfect union**, **establish justice**, insure **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: **L**egislative Branch

- Section 1: CREATES ALL LAWS / Congress a two-house system
- 2: House of Representatives [435] – age 25, Census to determine population for number of Representatives, and TAXES per each 13 states / 2 yr term / power of impeachment
 - 3: Senate [100] – age 30, 2 senators per state / 6-yr term / VP of U.S. is Pres of Senate
 - 4: Elections -- when, how, where: each state decides / Congress meets each Dec [now Jan 3]
 - 5: Rules of Order – a majority makes a quorum; keeps a journal ["Congressional Record"]
 - 6: Pay, Privileges – paid out of treasury
 - 7: How Bills Become Law – Pres signs or vetoes after each house passes a law
 - 8: 20 Powers ONLY – tax, borrow, foreign commerce, post offices, declares war, armies, etc.
 - 9: Powers Forbidden to Congress – (can NOT abolish *habeas corpus*) no bill of attainder, no *ex post facto*, no titles of nobility, no capitation
 - 10: Powers Forbidden to States – no treaties, no coining money, no titles, no foreign relations, etc.

Article II: **E**xecutive Branch

- Section 1: Elections – Electors elect Pres, Term 4 yrs, age 35, succession, natural born citizen, OATH
- 2: Powers – Commander-In-Chief, makes treaties, appts ambassadors, chooses "cabinet", pardons
 - 3: Duties – State of the Union, budget, execute laws, spokesperson for U.S
 - 4: Impeachment – is removed from office for conviction of treason, bribery, etc.

Article III: **J**udicial Branch

- Section 1: Federal Courts, Judges – ONE supreme court with inferior courts, "lifetime" job
- 2: Jurisdiction – "appellate jurisdiction" (appeals), guarantees trial by jury
 - 3: Treason – defined, needs testimony of two, cannot extend to family

Article IV: **S**tates

- Section 1: States' Rights, Duties – public acts, records, & judicial recognized by all states
- 2: Citizenship Rights – a criminal in one state can be arrested in another & sent back
 - 3: Admitting new states – Legislatures of states must agree on terms
 - 4: Guarantees States a Republican govt–promises protection from invasion & domestic violence

Article V: **Amdendment Procedure** – 2/3 to propose; ¾ State Legislatures approve, or CONVENTION

Article VI: **\$upremacy Clause** -- Debts / Constitution, Treaties supreme / No Religious test – 3 sentences long

Article VII: **Ratification** – 9 out of 13 states' conventions must approve this Constitution, DATE: **JUNE 21,1788**

Amendments

BILL OF RIGHTS (first ten amendments) – all ratified in **1791**

1. Freedom of religion, press, speech, assembly, petition;
2. Right to keep and bear arms (guns);
3. U.S. Soldiers cannot take over your home during war or peace;
4. Search Warrant needed to enter your home;
5. Protection of accused – cannot be forced to be a witness against self; grand jury a must; protection of Private Property;
6. Rights to speedy and public trial, impartial jury, be informed of problem, meet witnesses against the accused, be given a lawyer.
7. Trial by Jury;
8. No excessive bail / fines or cruel punishment;
9. Enumerated Rights do not deny other rights of the people.
10. All other powers given to states / people.
11. Immunity of States;
12. Election of President – Electors;
13. Prohibition of Slavery;
14. Citizens' Rights;
15. Minority Right to Vote;
16. Income Tax;
17. Election of Senators by people instead of State Legislatures;
18. Prohibition – it is against the law to alcohol;
19. Women's Right to Vote;
20. "Lame Duck" Session;
21. Drinking alcohol now allowed (18th Amendment repealed)
22. President's Tenure – no more than 2 terms;
23. Washington DC set up, and voting;
24. Barring of Poll Tax;
25. Presidential disability;
26. Voting age lowered to 18 [1963];
27. No Congressional pay raises for Congress currently serving (1992).