

# The Constitution of the United States

**We the People** of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic<sup>1</sup> Tranquility<sup>2</sup>, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare<sup>3</sup>, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity<sup>4</sup>, do ordain<sup>5</sup> and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

## Article. I.

### 5 Section. 1.

All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested<sup>6</sup> in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

### Section. 2.

The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several  
10 States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite<sup>7</sup> for Electors of the most numerous Branch<sup>8</sup> of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained<sup>9</sup> to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

15 Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned<sup>10</sup> among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective<sup>11</sup> Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration<sup>12</sup> shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent<sup>13</sup> Term of ten Years, in such Manner<sup>14</sup> as they shall by Law direct. The  
20 Number of Representatives shall not exceed<sup>15</sup> one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse<sup>16</sup> three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

25 When vacancies<sup>17</sup> happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority<sup>18</sup> thereof shall issue<sup>19</sup> Writs<sup>20</sup> of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole<sup>21</sup> Power of Impeachment<sup>22</sup>.

### Section. 3.

30 The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled<sup>23</sup> in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated<sup>24</sup> at the Expiration<sup>25</sup> 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  
35 sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess<sup>26</sup> of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary<sup>27</sup> Appointments<sup>28</sup> until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

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, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

40 The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore<sup>29</sup>, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try<sup>30</sup> all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath<sup>31</sup> or Affirmation<sup>32</sup>. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice<sup>33</sup> shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted<sup>34</sup> without the Concurrence<sup>35</sup> of two thirds of the Members present.

Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal<sup>36</sup> from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party<sup>37</sup> convicted shall nevertheless be liable<sup>38</sup> and subject to Indictment<sup>39</sup>, Trial<sup>40</sup>, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

#### 50 **Section. 4.**

The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed<sup>41</sup> in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to<sup>42</sup> the Places of chusing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

#### **Section. 5.**

Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute<sup>43</sup> a Quorum<sup>44</sup> to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn<sup>45</sup> from day to day, and may be authorized to compel<sup>46</sup> the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties<sup>47</sup> as each House may provide<sup>48</sup>.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel<sup>49</sup> a Member.

Each House shall keep a Journal<sup>50</sup> of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays<sup>51</sup> of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent<sup>52</sup> of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

#### **Section. 6.**

The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained<sup>53</sup> by Law, and paid out of the Treasury<sup>54</sup> of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason<sup>55</sup>, Felony<sup>56</sup> and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments<sup>57</sup> whereof shall have been encreased<sup>58</sup> during such time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office.

#### **Section. 7.**

All Bills<sup>59</sup> for raising Revenue<sup>60</sup> shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose<sup>61</sup> or concur<sup>62</sup> with Amendments<sup>63</sup> as on other Bills.

Every Bill which shall have passed<sup>64</sup> the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become<sup>65</sup> a Law, be presented to the President of the United States: If he approve<sup>66</sup> he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections<sup>67</sup> to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large<sup>68</sup> on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider<sup>69</sup> it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a Law. But in all such Cases the Votes of both Houses 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 House respectively<sup>70</sup>. If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays

excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it,  
90 unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent<sup>71</sup> its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (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 him, or being disapproved by him, 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.

## 95 **Section. 8.**

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties<sup>72</sup>, Imposts<sup>73</sup> and Excises<sup>74</sup>, to pay the Debts<sup>75</sup> and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

100 To regulate Commerce<sup>76</sup> with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization<sup>77</sup>, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting<sup>78</sup> the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

105 To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals<sup>79</sup> inferior<sup>80</sup> to the supreme Court<sup>81</sup>;

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offences<sup>82</sup> against the Law of Nations;

110 To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal<sup>83</sup>, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation<sup>84</sup> of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia<sup>85</sup> to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections<sup>86</sup> and repel<sup>87</sup>  
115 Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may,  
120 by Cession<sup>88</sup> of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the 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<sup>89</sup>, and other needful Buildings;--And

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.

## 125 **Section. 9.**

The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit<sup>90</sup>, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be

imposed<sup>91</sup> on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus<sup>92</sup> shall not be suspended<sup>93</sup>, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion  
130 the public Safety may require it.

No Bill of Attainder<sup>94</sup> or ex post facto Law<sup>95</sup> shall be passed.

No Capitation<sup>96</sup>, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census<sup>97</sup> or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

135 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<sup>98</sup> bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.

No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account<sup>99</sup> of the Receipts and Expenditures<sup>100</sup> of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

140 No Title of Nobility<sup>101</sup> shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

## Section. 10.

No State shall enter into any Treaty<sup>102</sup>, Alliance, or Confederation<sup>103</sup>; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin  
145 Money; emit<sup>104</sup> Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender<sup>105</sup> in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing<sup>106</sup> the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing it's inspection Laws: and the net<sup>107</sup> 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  
150 be subject to the Revision and Controul<sup>108</sup> of the Congress.

No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage<sup>109</sup>, 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<sup>110</sup> War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent<sup>111</sup> Danger as will not admit of delay.

## Article. II.

### 155 Section. 1.

The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows:

Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or  
160 Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by Ballot<sup>112</sup> for two Persons, of whom one at least shall not be an Inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a List of all the Persons voted for, and of the Number of Votes for each; which List they shall sign and certify<sup>113</sup>, and transmit sealed<sup>114</sup> 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  
165 Presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be

counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have<sup>115</sup> an equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse by Ballot one of them for President; and if no Person have<sup>116</sup> a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like Manner<sup>117</sup> chuse the  
170 President. But in chusing the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representation from each State having one Vote; A quorum for this purpose shall consist of a Member or Members from two thirds of the States, and a

Majority of all the States shall be necessary to a Choice. In every Case, after the Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal Votes, the Senate shall chuse from them by Ballot the Vice President.

175 The Congress may determine the Time of chusing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption<sup>118</sup> of this Constitution, shall be eligible<sup>119</sup> to the Office of President; neither shall any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.

180 In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge<sup>120</sup> the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve<sup>121</sup> on the Vice President, and the Congress may by Law provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what Officer shall then act as President, and such Officer shall act accordingly, until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

185 The President shall, at stated Times, receive for his Services, a Compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the Period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter<sup>122</sup> on the Execution of his Office, he 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

190 Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

## Section. 2.

The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; he 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  
195 Offices, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves<sup>123</sup> and Pardons<sup>124</sup> for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United  
200 States, whose Appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by Law: but the Congress may by Law vest the Appointment of such inferior Officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the Courts of Law, or in the Heads of Departments.

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<sup>125</sup> at the End of their next Session.

## 205 Section. 3.

He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient<sup>126</sup>; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene<sup>127</sup> both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors<sup>128</sup> and other  
210 public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission<sup>129</sup> all the Officers of the United States.

## Section. 4.

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<sup>130</sup>, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors<sup>131</sup>.

## 215 Article III.

### Section. 1.

The judicial Power of the United States shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

## Section. 2.

The judicial Power shall extend<sup>132</sup> to all Cases, in Law and Equity<sup>133</sup>, 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 Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls;--to all Cases of admiralty and maritime<sup>134</sup> Jurisdiction;--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.

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<sup>135</sup>, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

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 the Congress may by Law have directed.

## Section. 3.

Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying<sup>136</sup> War against them, or in adhering to<sup>137</sup> 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<sup>138</sup> Act, or on Confession in open Court.

The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder<sup>139</sup> of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood<sup>140</sup>, or Forfeiture<sup>141</sup> except during the Life of the Person attainted<sup>142</sup>.

## Article. IV.

### Section. 1.

Full Faith<sup>143</sup> and Credit<sup>144</sup> shall be given in each State to the public Acts<sup>145</sup>, Records<sup>146</sup>, and judicial Proceedings<sup>147</sup> of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

### Section. 2.

The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

A Person charged<sup>148</sup> 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.

No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged<sup>149</sup> from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due<sup>150</sup>.

### Section. 3.

New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction<sup>151</sup> of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of<sup>152</sup> 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<sup>153</sup> as to Prejudice<sup>154</sup> any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

#### Section. 4.

The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened), against domestic Violence.

#### 265 Article. V.

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem<sup>155</sup> 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<sup>156</sup> to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified<sup>157</sup> by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as  
270 the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth  
Clauses<sup>158</sup> in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived<sup>159</sup> of its  
equal Suffrage<sup>160</sup> in the Senate.

#### Article. VI.

275 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.

This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties 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  
280 notwithstanding.

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.

#### 285 Article. VII.

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

The Word, "the," being interlined between the seventh and eighth Lines of the first Page, the Word "Thirty" being partly written on an Erasure in the fifteenth Line of the first Page, The Words "is tried" being interlined between the  
290 thirty second and thirty third Lines of the first Page and the Word "the" being interlined between the forty third and forty fourth Lines of the second Page.

Attest William Jackson Secretary done in Convention by the Unanimous Consent of the States present the Seventeenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty seven and of the Independance of the United States of America the Twelfth In witness whereof We have hereunto subscribed our  
295 Names,

G°. Washington

*Presidt and deputy from Virgini*

**Delaware**

Geo: Read

300 Gunning Bedford jun

John Dickinson

Richard Bassett

Jaco: Broom

**Maryland**

305 James McHenry  
Dan of St Thos. Jenifer  
Danl. Carroll

**Virginia**

John Blair

310 James Madison Jr.

**North Carolina**

Wm. Blount

Richd. Dobbs Spaight

Hu Williamson

315 **South Carolina**

J. Rutledge

Charles Cotesworth Pinckney

Charles Pinckney

Pierce Butler

320 **Georgia**

William Few

Abr Baldwin

**New Hampshire**

John Langdon

325 Nicholas Gilman

**Massachusetts**

Nathaniel Gorham

Rufus King

**Connecticut**

330 Wm. Saml. Johnson

Roger Sherman

**New York**

Alexander Hamilton

**New Jersey**

335 Wil: Livingston

David Brearley

Wm. Paterson

Jona: Dayton

**Pennsylvania**

340 B Franklin

Thomas Mifflin

Robt. Morris



Geo. Clymer

Thos. FitzSimons

345 Jared Ingersoll

James Wilson

Gouv Morris

(4601 words)

Quelle: [http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution\\_transcript.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution_transcript.html)

<sup>1</sup>**domestic** national – <sup>2</sup>**tranquility** calmness – <sup>3</sup>**welfare** help given by the state to those in need – <sup>4</sup>**posterity** descendants – <sup>5</sup>**to ordain** to officially make – <sup>6</sup>**vested** given to – <sup>7</sup>needed, required – <sup>8</sup>**branch** here: chamber – <sup>9</sup>**too attain** to achieve – <sup>10</sup>**to apportion** to share – <sup>11</sup>**respective** here: individual – <sup>12</sup>**enumeration** counting – <sup>13</sup>**subsequent** following – <sup>14</sup>**manner** way – <sup>15</sup>**to exceed** to go beyond what is allowed – <sup>16</sup>**chuse** correct: choose – <sup>17</sup>**vacancy** unfilled position or post – <sup>18</sup>**authority** here: government – <sup>19</sup>**to issue** to send out, provide – <sup>20</sup>**writ** formal legal written order to do sth. – <sup>21</sup>**sole** not shared – <sup>22</sup>**impeachment** accusation of a public official for committing a serious crime – <sup>23</sup>**to assemble** to come together – <sup>24</sup>**to vacate** to leave and make available – <sup>25</sup>**expiration** ending – <sup>26</sup>**recess** period of time when a parliament is not meeting – <sup>27</sup>lasting a short time, not permanent – <sup>28</sup>**appointment** here: nomination – <sup>29</sup>**pro tempore** temporarily, for a short time – <sup>30</sup>**to try** to examine and decide in a court of law – <sup>31</sup>**to be on oath** to have formally sworn (to God) to tell the truth – <sup>32</sup>**affirmation** sworn declaration made in court – <sup>33</sup>**chief justice** most important judge in a court of law – <sup>34</sup>**to convict** to declare in a court of law that sb. is guilty – <sup>35</sup>**concurrence** meeting – <sup>36</sup>**removal** act of forcing sb. to leave an important position or job – <sup>37</sup>**party** here: person – <sup>38</sup>**liable** responsible by law – <sup>39</sup>**indictment** a formal statement of accusing sb. – <sup>40</sup>**indictment** a formal statement of accusing sb. – <sup>41</sup>**to prescribe** to give sth. as a rule – <sup>42</sup>**as to** about, regarding, concerning – <sup>43</sup>**to constitute** to form or make – <sup>44</sup>**quorum** minimum number of people who must be present at a meeting before official decisions can be made – <sup>45</sup>**to adjourn** to pause, stop (a meeting) for a time – <sup>46</sup>**to compel** to force – <sup>47</sup>**penalty** punishment – <sup>48</sup>**to provide** to give – <sup>49</sup>**to expel** to force sb. to leave (an organization) – <sup>50</sup>**journal** written record, diary – <sup>51</sup>**yea and nay** old forms of yes and no (used in oral voting) – <sup>52</sup>**consent** permission, agreement – <sup>53</sup>**to ascertain** to determine, decide – <sup>54</sup>**treasury** government department responsible for financial matters – <sup>55</sup>**treason** crime of betraying your country, especially by helping its enemies – <sup>56</sup>**felony** serious crime – <sup>57</sup>**emolument** salary, payment – <sup>58</sup>**encreased** correct: increased – <sup>59</sup>**bill** draft of a planned new law to be discussed by a parliament – <sup>60</sup>**revenue** income that a government regularly receives from taxes – <sup>61</sup>**to propose** to suggest – <sup>62</sup>**to concur** to agree – <sup>63</sup>**amendment** change to a law that is still being discussed – <sup>64</sup>**to pass** to approve, accept or to be approved, accepted by a group having authority by voting – <sup>65</sup>**become** correct: becomes – <sup>66</sup>**approve** correct: approves – <sup>67</sup>**objection** expression of opposition, dislike, protest; veto – <sup>68</sup>**at large** detailed – <sup>69</sup>**to reconsider** to think again about sth. – <sup>70</sup>**respectively** here: separately – <sup>71</sup>**to prevent** to stop sth. from happening – <sup>72</sup>**duty** import or export tax, tariff – <sup>73</sup>**impost** import or export tax, tariff – <sup>74</sup>**excise** consumption tax – <sup>75</sup>**debt** money which is owed – <sup>76</sup>**commerce** trade; buying and selling of goods – <sup>77</sup>**naturalization** becoming a citizen of a country – <sup>78</sup>**to counterfeit** to copy or imitate in order to deceive – <sup>79</sup>**tribunal** group of officials chosen to examine (legal) problems of a particular type – <sup>80</sup>**inferior** of lower rank – <sup>81</sup>**supreme court** the most important court of law in the US – <sup>82</sup>**offence** crime – <sup>83</sup>**letter of marque and reprisal** government licence authorizing a person to attack and capture enemy ships – <sup>84</sup>**appropriation** here: authorization, allowance – <sup>85</sup>**militia** force of civilians trained as soldiers supporting the regular army in the internal defense of their country – <sup>86</sup>**insurrection** revolt, rebellion – <sup>87</sup>**to repel** to force sb. to stop attacking you; to repulse – <sup>88</sup>**cession** act of officially giving land or property to another country – <sup>89</sup>**dockyard** area with docks and equipment for building and repairing ships – <sup>90</sup>**to admit** to allow sb. to enter – <sup>91</sup>**to impose** to place (penalty, tax) officially on sb. or sth. – <sup>92</sup>**habeas corpus** legal order requiring a person in prison to appear before a judge or into court before he or she can be forced by law to stay in prison – <sup>93</sup>**to suspend** to prevent sth. from being in effect; to stop temporarily – <sup>94</sup>**bill of attainder** act of a parliament declaring a person guilty of a crime without a judicial trial – <sup>95</sup>**ex post facto law** law that can retroactively criminalize actions that were legal when committed – <sup>96</sup>**capitation** tax or fee of an equal amount for each person – <sup>97</sup>**census** official counting of a country's population – <sup>98</sup>**vessel** a large boat or ship – <sup>99</sup>**statement and account** printed record showing all the money paid into and out of a bank account – <sup>100</sup>**expenditure** amount (of money) spent – <sup>101</sup>**nobility** people of the highest social rank in a society – <sup>102</sup>**treaty** written and signed agreement; contract – <sup>103</sup>organization of groups that have joined together for political reasons – <sup>104</sup>**to emit** to give or send out – <sup>105</sup>**legal tender** money which can be officially used in a country – <sup>106</sup>**to impair** to weaken or damage sth. – <sup>107</sup>**net** remaining when there is nothing else to be subtracted – <sup>108</sup>**controul** correct: control – <sup>109</sup>**tonnage** weight of goods that a ship is able to carry – <sup>110</sup>**to engage in** to take part in – <sup>111</sup>**imminent** here: threatening – <sup>112</sup>**ballot** system of secret voting – <sup>113</sup>**to certify** to formally declare – <sup>114</sup>**to seal** to mark a document to prevent it from being opened by the wrong person – <sup>115</sup>**have** correct: has – <sup>116</sup>**have** correct: has – <sup>117</sup>**in like manner** in the same way; likewise – <sup>118</sup>**adoption** acceptance, approval – <sup>119</sup>**eligible** having the right or proper qualifications – <sup>120</sup>**to discharge** here: to carry out, exercise – <sup>121</sup>**to devolve** to be transferred or passed to sb. – <sup>122</sup>**enter** correct: enters – <sup>123</sup>**reprieve** delaying of a punishment – <sup>124</sup>**pardon** forgiveness – <sup>125</sup>**to expire** to come to an end – <sup>126</sup>**expedient** helpful or useful in a particular situation; appropriate – <sup>127</sup>**to convene** to arrange or call a meeting – <sup>128</sup>**ambassador** official who represents his or her own country in a foreign country; chief diplomat – <sup>129</sup>**to commission** to authorize, appoint – <sup>130</sup>**bribery** presents given to influence sb. to do sth. (often dishonest) for the giver; corruption – <sup>131</sup>**misdemeanor** less serious type of crime – <sup>132</sup>**to extend** to reach – <sup>133</sup>**equity** fairness, right judgement – <sup>134</sup>**maritime** connected with ships or the sea – <sup>135</sup>**appellate Jurisdiction** right of a court to change the decisions of a lower court – <sup>136</sup>**to levy** here: to start, make – <sup>137</sup>**to adhere to** here: to support – <sup>138</sup>**overt** evident,

obvious – <sup>139</sup>**attainder** here: legal consequences – <sup>140</sup>**Corruption of Blood** when a person is convicted of treason and the government also punishes the person's innocent family members – <sup>141</sup>**forfeiture** the loss of rights, property or money – <sup>142</sup>**to attain** to take away property, to disown, to dispossess – <sup>143</sup>**faith** great trust, confidence – <sup>144</sup>**credit** approval, acceptance, recognition – <sup>145</sup>**act** law – <sup>146</sup>**record** document; certificate – <sup>147</sup>**judicial proceedings** actions that are taken in a court of law – <sup>148</sup>**to charge** to accuse – <sup>149</sup>**to discharge** here: to free, release – <sup>150</sup>**due** owed – <sup>151</sup>**junction** here: agreement, arrangement – <sup>152</sup>**to dispose of** to be free to decide what to do with sth. – <sup>153</sup>**to construe** to interpret – <sup>154</sup>**to prejudice** to unfairly influence sb. or sth. – <sup>155</sup>**to deem** to consider – <sup>156</sup>**valid** legally usable or acceptable – <sup>157</sup>**to ratify** to make an agreement official by signing it – <sup>158</sup>**clause** paragraph or section in a legal document – <sup>159</sup>**to deprive** to take away – <sup>160</sup>**suffrage** right to vote in an election