

**Social Studies Virtual Learning**

# **AP US Gov & Politics**

**U1 Review : Ratification of the  
Constitution**

**May 6, 2020**

# AP US Gov & Politics

May 6th, 2020

Learning Target (CON-1.C) : Explain the ongoing impact of political negotiation and compromise at the Convention on the development of the constitutional system

Focus Area : Four Compromises, Amendment Process, and Unresolved Issues

Explain the ongoing impact of political negotiation and compromise at the Constitutional Convention on the development of the constitutional system. **CON-1.C**

# Vocabulary for this Lesson:

## Key terms

Term	Definition
amendment	A change to the United States Constitution.
Article V	The section of the Constitution that details how to amend the Constitution, either through a congressional proposal or a convention of the states, with final ratification from three-fourths of the states.
Great Compromise	Also known as the Connecticut Compromise, a major compromise at the Constitutional Convention that created a two-house legislature, with the Senate having equal representation for all states and the House of Representatives having representation proportional to state populations.
Electoral College	A body of representatives from every state in the United States who formally cast votes to elect the president and vice president.
Three-Fifths Compromise	An agreement added to the Constitution that would count each enslaved person as three-fifths of a white person for purposes of representation in the House of Representatives.

Click on this  
Summary  
video


Khan  
Academy  
Video:

Electoral  
College

# Constitutional Compromises

## The Electoral College

← Revolution →  
too Fair?  
not fair enough?




State	Electoral College Votes
Alabama	6
Alaska	3
Arizona	5
Arkansas	6
California	55
Colorado	10
Connecticut	5
Delaware	3
Florida	10
Georgia	16
Hawaii	3
Idaho	3
Illinois	11
Indiana	11
Iowa	6
Kansas	6
Kentucky	6
Louisiana	6
Maine	3
Maryland	10
Massachusetts	11
Michigan	16
Minnesota	10
Mississippi	6
Missouri	10
Montana	3
Nebraska	5
Nevada	3
New Hampshire	3
New Jersey	14
New Mexico	5
New York	29
North Carolina	15
North Dakota	3
Ohio	18
Oklahoma	5
Oregon	7
Pennsylvania	20
Rhode Island	4
South Carolina	9
South Dakota	3
Tennessee	6
Texas	38
Utah	6
Vermont	3
Virginia	12
Washington	12
West Virginia	6
Wisconsin	10
Wyoming	3

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 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 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, 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 shall be the President . . .

Shay's Rebellion!



# Khan Academy

Click on this  
Summary  
video

Khan  
Academy  
Video:

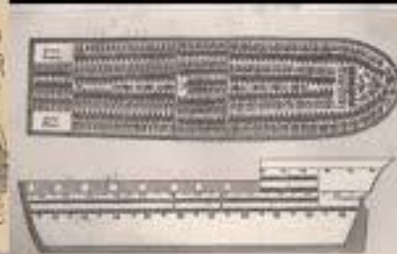
Three-Fifths  
Compromise

Constitutional Compromises  
Slavery and the international slave trade

Northern - outlaw,  
phase out slavery



middle passage



Khan Academy

The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but any Law passed by the Congress before that Time, shall not be so construed as to affect such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

Click on this  
Summary  
video

Khan Academy  
Video:

Impact of the  
Compromises

- Great Compromise

House  
of Rep.

Senate

- Electoral College





GREAT (CT)  
COMPROMISE

THREE-FIFTHS  
COMPROMISE

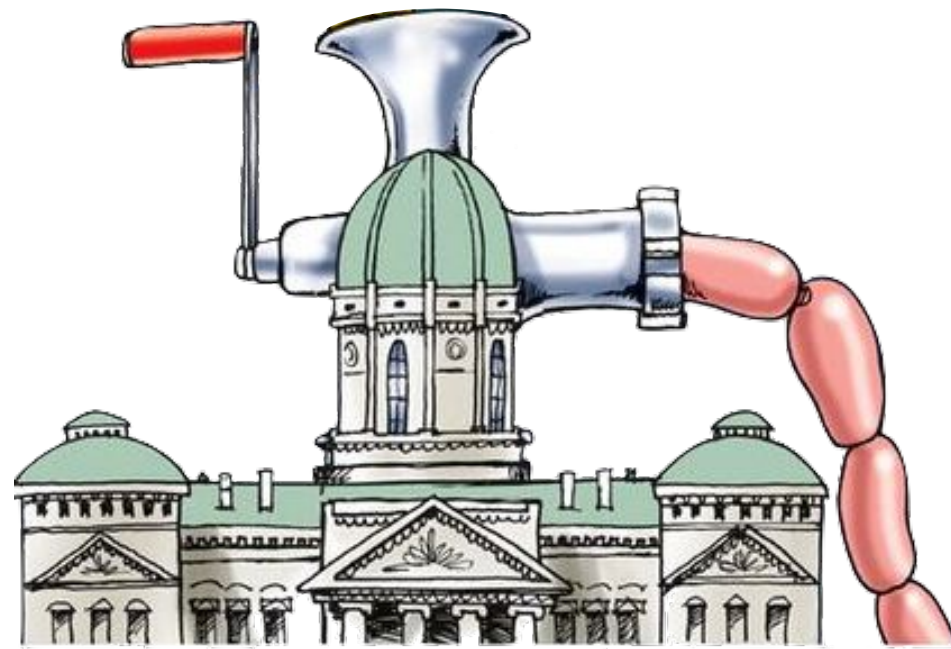
ELECTORAL  
COLLEGE

SLAVE  
IMPORTATION



Crash Course video!

THERE'S TWO THINGS  
YOU NEVER WANT TO  
WATCH BEING MADE,  
**LAWS & SAUSAGES**





## ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION

Unicameral Leg.

Representation equal per state

## PROPOSALS at the CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

### NJ PLAN

Unicameral Leg.

Representation equal per state

Favored by small pop. states

### VA PLAN

Bicameral Leg.

Rep based on population

Favored by big pop. states



## GREAT (CT) COMPROMISE



## BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE

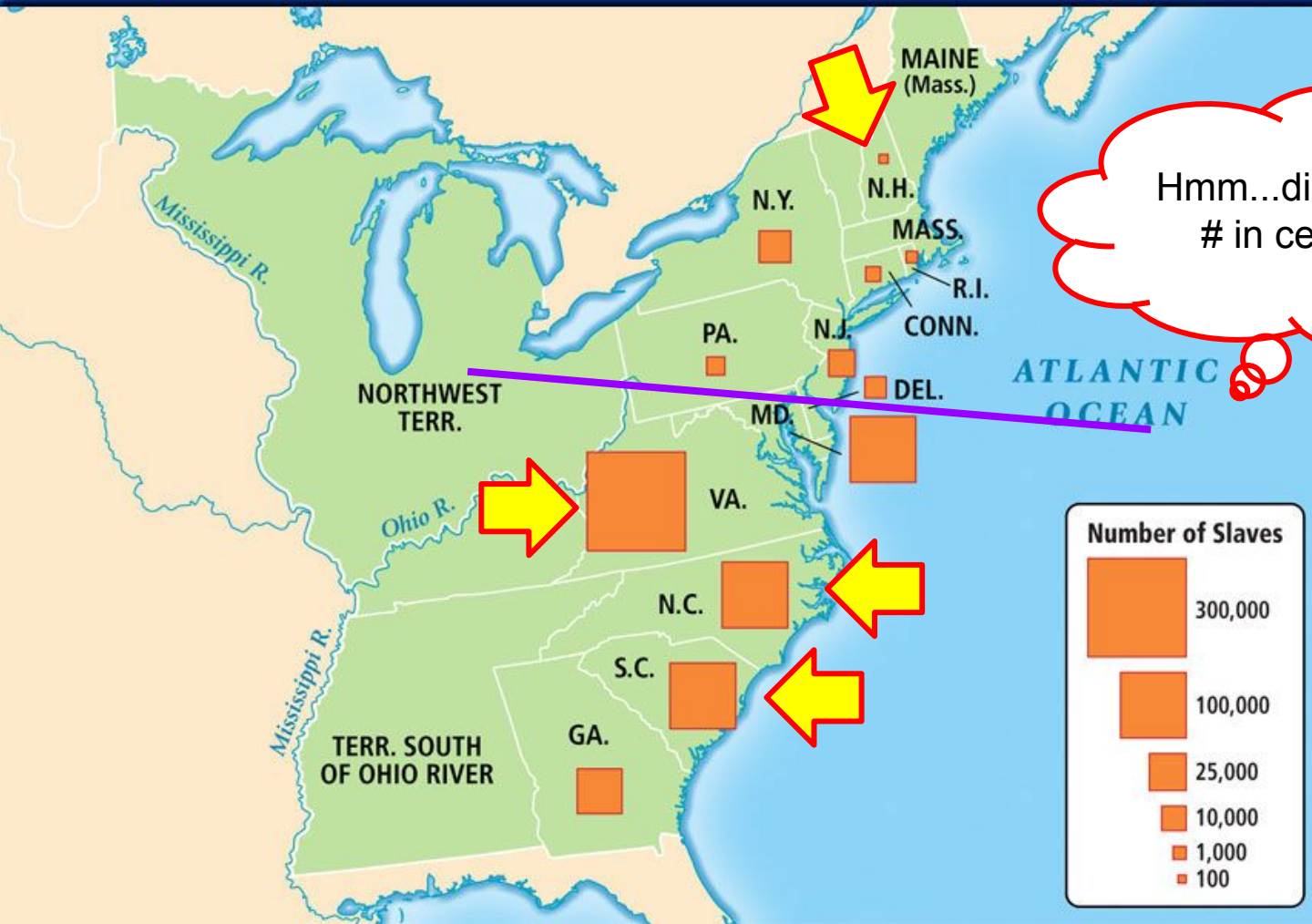
### SENATE

Rep equal  
(2 per state)

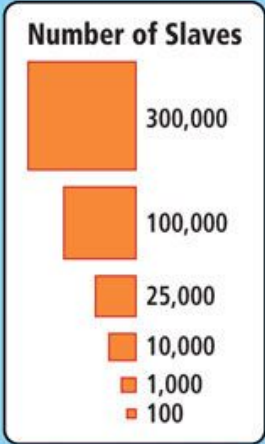
### HOUSE of REPS

Representation based on pop.

# Slave Population 1790



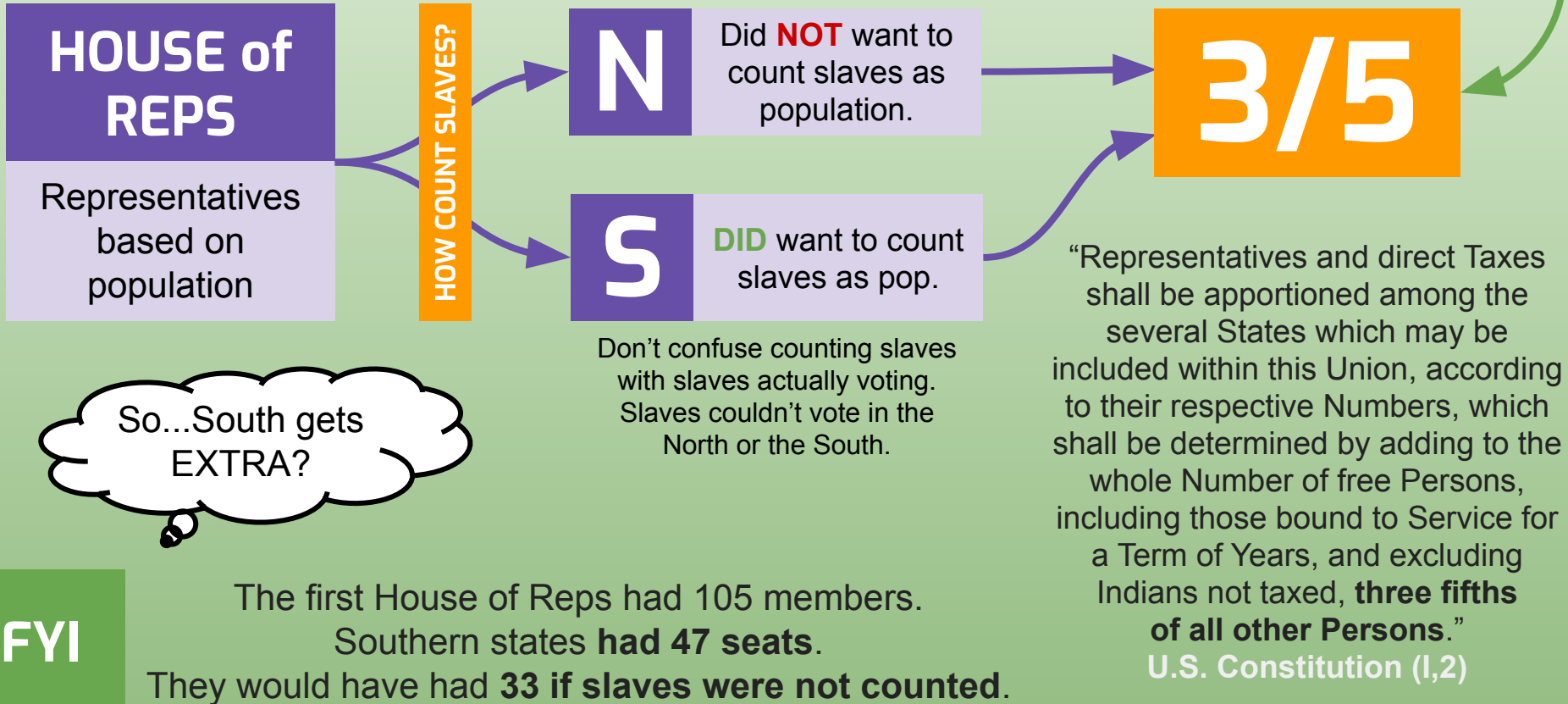
Hmm...disproportionate # in certain places

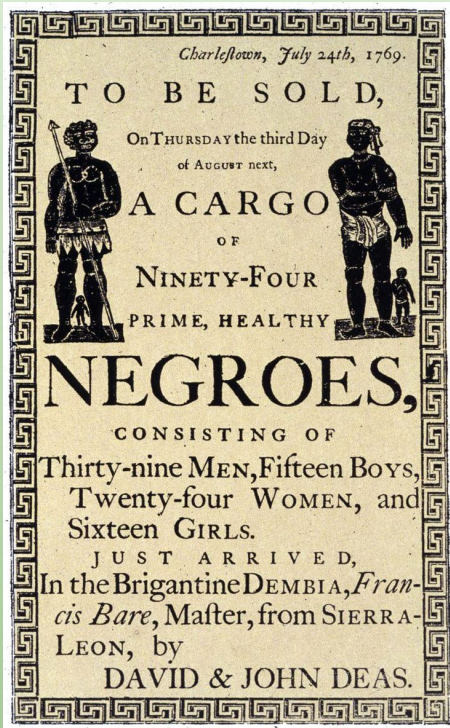


# 3/5 COMPROMISE

WHERE'D THEY GET THIS NUMBER

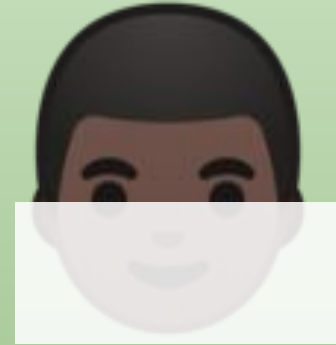
This number came from a proposed Amendment to the Articles of Confed.





3/5

COMPROMISE



BLACK LIVES

KIND OF

MATTER



**No** desegregated schools, **No** same-sex/interracial marriage, or **No** discrimination lawsuits without this!

## AMENDMENTS FIX PROBLEMS

**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.**

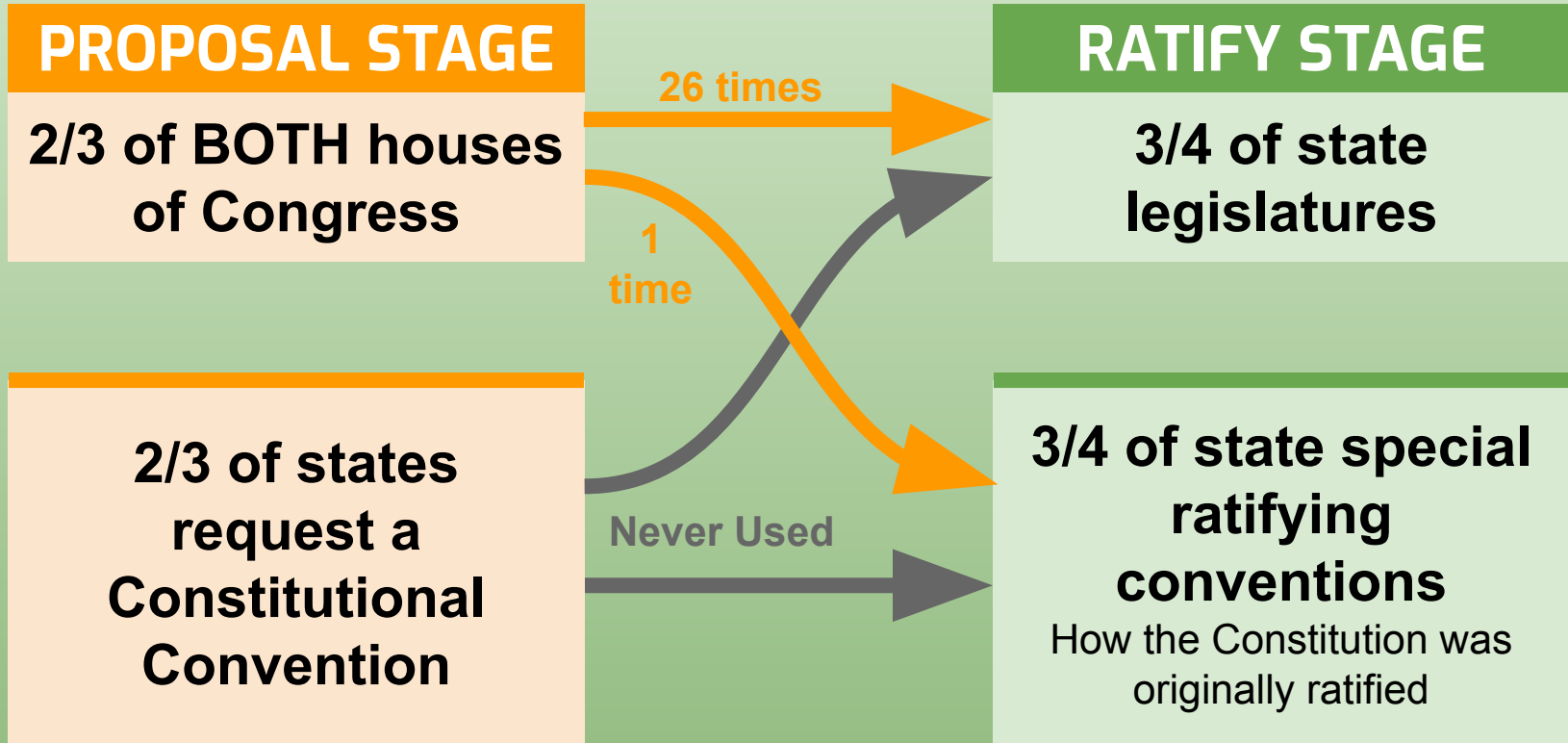
14th Amendment

# Why Do We Need an Amendment Process?

As the United States has continued to grow and face unique challenges brought on through modern warfare, alliances, and technology, some critics have argued that the Framers of the Constitution could not have foreseen the changes the United States would experience. What can we do to update the Constitution to address these new issues? Well, the Framers thought of a solution: citizens could add changes to the Constitution.

The Framers added a process for amending, or changing, the Constitution in Article V. Since 1789, the United States has added 27 amendments to the Constitution. An **amendment** is a change to the Constitution. The first ten amendments to the Constitution became known as the **Bill of Rights**. These first amendments were designed to protect individual rights and liberties, like the right to free speech and the right to trial by jury.

# FORMAL AMENDMENT PROCESS



**YES**

Need  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the states (38/50) in order for the Amendment to be ratified.

Only 13 states are needed to kill an Amendment

**NO**



**MO SENATE**

**18 YES**

**16 NO**

**MO HOUSE**

**82 YES**

**81 NO**





**YES**

Need  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the states (38/50) in order for the Amendment to be ratified.

Only 13 states are needed to kill an Amendment

**NO**



That's hard enough...but  
imagine getting **YES**  
votes on both sides of  
state legislatures **PLUS**  
**37 OTHER STATES**

**MO SENATE**

**18 YES**

**16 NO**

**MO HOUSE**

**82 YES**

**81 NO**



# Why are Amendments so Difficult?

Between 1789 and 2014, over 11,000 amendments have been proposed; however, only 27 amendments have been ratified. Why is it so hard for proposed amendments to receive support for final ratification? A few roadblocks are standing in the way.

## Roadblock #1

Since it takes 3/4ths of state legislatures (or Conventions) to ratify the amendment, it rarely happens

Take, for example, the Equal Rights Amendment, or ERA. The ERA was introduced in 1923. It finally passed Congress in 1972 and was sent to the states for ratification. The ERA was designed to guarantee equal rights for all citizens regardless of sex. It fell three states short of ratification and so was not added to the Constitution.

# Roadblock #2

Revisited themes like:

1) Failed  
Congressional  
Apportionment  
Amendment to cap  
citizens per  
representative # at  
30,000

2) Successful 27th  
Amendment which  
took 202 years to pass  
about Congressional  
pay freeze until  
re-election

Second, for an amendment to be passed through the congressional proposal method, two-thirds of Congress must propose the amendment. To introduce a new amendment the two parties must cooperate, as no one party has controlled two-thirds of both the House of Representatives and the Senate. With each party supporting different ideological goals, getting two-thirds of Congress to agree on a change to the Constitution is nearly impossible without some level of cooperation.

The process is so difficult that it could take years before the US Constitution has its 28th amendment. Some amendments continue to pop up in Congress, including an amendment requiring Congress to pass a balanced budget, an amendment setting term limits for members of Congress, and amendments defining who can get married.



# CAN THE SCOTUS RULE AN AMENDMENT UNCONSTITUTIONAL?

**NO**

Their job is to interpret the Constitution's meaning. Amendments and parts of the Constitution are more important than their rulings/opinions.

# IMPORTATION COMPROMISE

The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall **NOT** be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year [1808]...

U.S. Constitution  
Article I, Section 9

## POLITICS

Who gets what,  
when, and how

N

FED

WHITE

S

A-F

BLACK



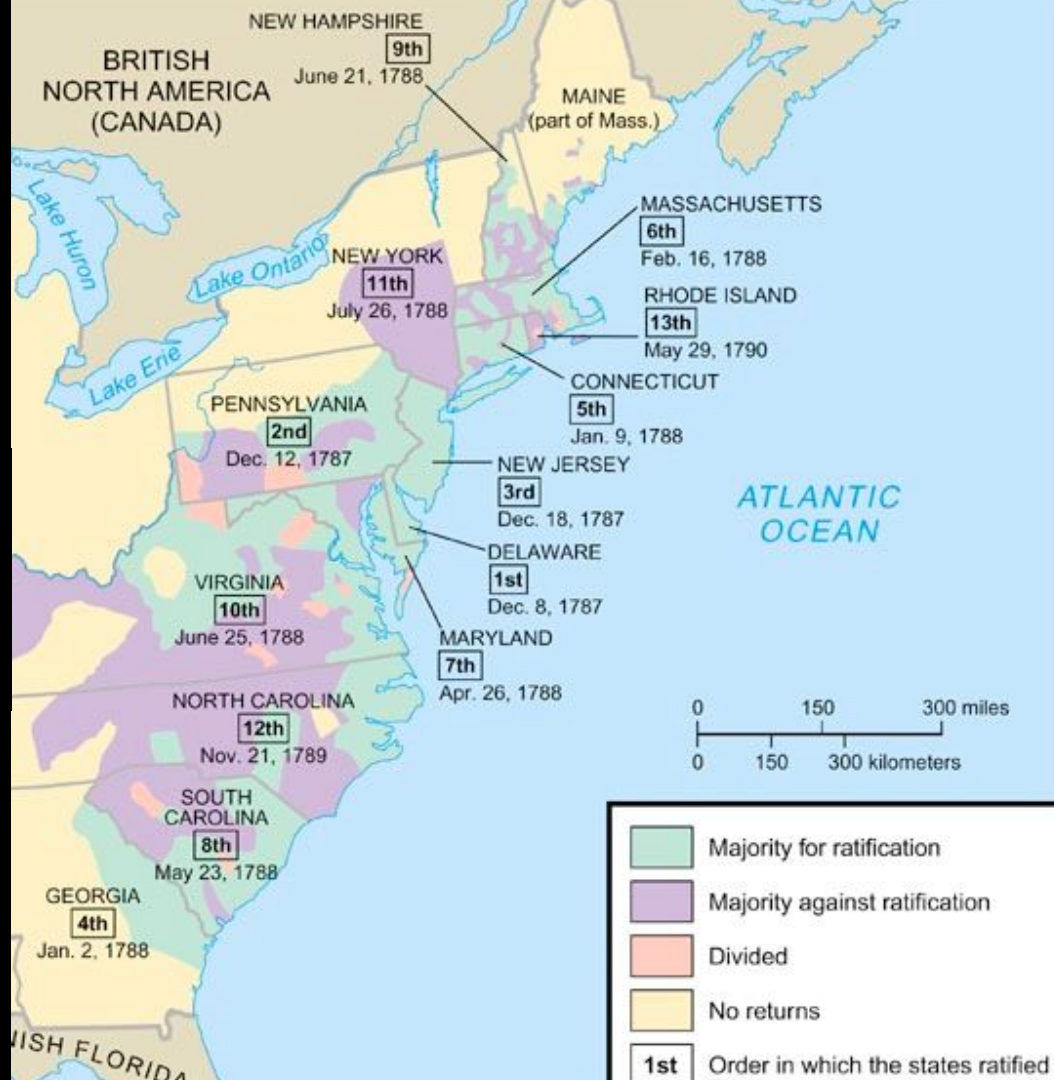
# Unresolved Issues

1. Although a compromise was created to count slaves for population and representation (3/5ths Compromise), as well as another compromise to NOT limit the importation of slaves until at least 1808....**there was no clear expectation for the future of slavery in America.**
  - a. Probably contributed to Missouri/Kansas border issues in 1850s
  - b. Definitely contributed to North/South divisions in the 70+ years before the Civil War
2. **What was the clear defined role of the federal government? Of the states?**
3. **Are their limits to citizen's civil liberties and freedoms?**

“Publius” wrote the Federalist Papers to support the new Constitution that **created a federal system with a stronger central government** than existed during the Articles of Confederation

# FEDERALISTS vs. ANTIFEDERALISTS

“Brutus” wrote the Anti-Federalist Papers to **support a weaker central government** and maintaining a structure more similar to the Articles of Confederation.





# Debating Federal Government's Role Today

Federal aid is distributed to states for transportation, public education, and Medicaid

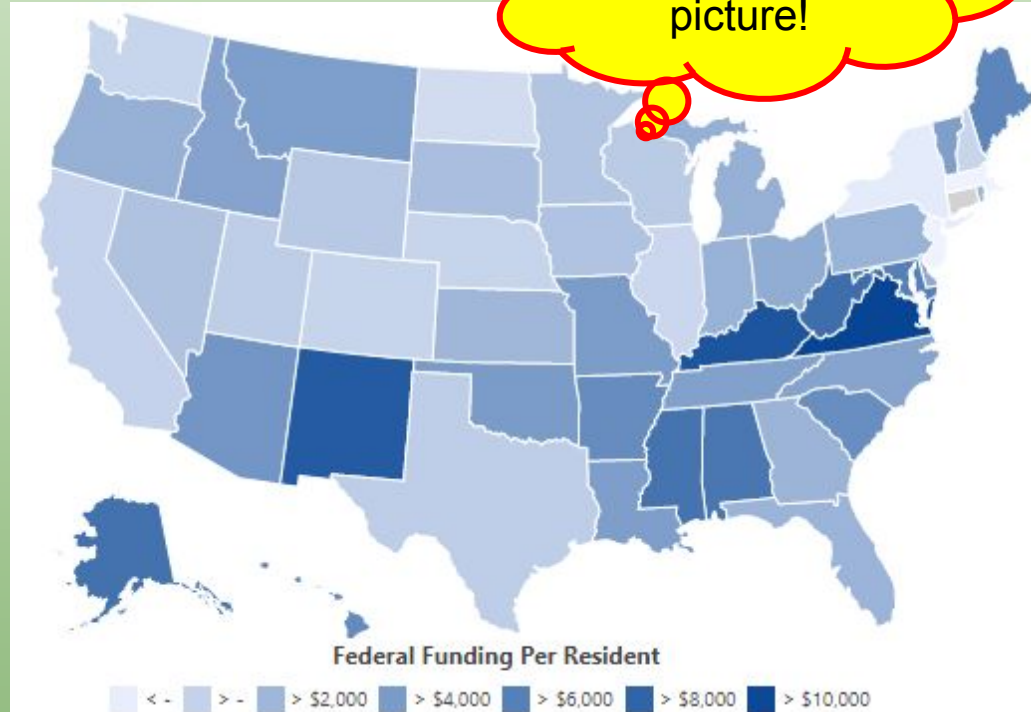
States with more federal aid = poorer populations, lower tax revenues and have more assistance programs such as Medicaid

States with less federal aid = higher income residents

Competitive grants fluctuate from year to year.  
Formula grants incorporate population and poverty statistics into an equation

**Missouri is the 15th highest of 50 states in per-resident aid.**

Link to website data is on this picture!



# Government Surveillance in Era of Terrorism

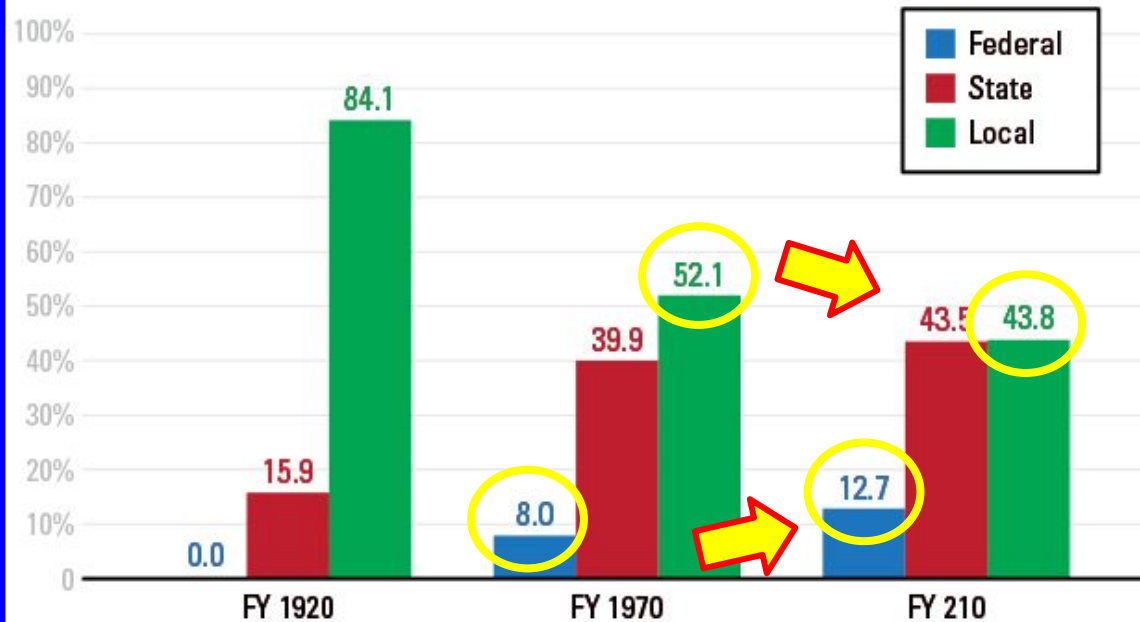
Maybe a test application FRQ!!!

Yikes!



# Role of Federal Funding in Education

CHANGE IN US EDUCATION FUNDING SOURCES



Note the increase in Federal & State government \$ rather than Local communities for education

Maybe a test application FRQ!

# Practice Question #1

Which of the following scenarios is an example of a present-day constitutional issue about democracy and governmental power?

Choose 1 answer:

- (A) Reducing the corporate tax rate as part of the 2017 tax reform bill
- (B) Congress passing a bill that will increase taxes on the top 1% of earners
- (C) FBI agents being able to obtain phone records without a judge's approval
- (D) Congress passing a law requiring restrooms in public buildings to be equipped with baby changing facilities

# Answer to Question #1

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# Practice Question #2

"Because of our two-party system, voters often find themselves voting for the 'lesser of two evils,' rather than a candidate they really feel would do the best job. . . .

"Since most states distribute their electoral votes on a winner-take-all basis, the smaller party has no chance to gain support without seeming to take this support from one of the major parties. Few people will support a party that never wins, especially when they are supporting that party at the possible expense of their least favorite candidate taking power."

Source: [FairVote.org](https://www.fairvote.org)

Which of the following governmental policies would the author of this passage most likely support?

Choose 1 answer:

- (A) Reforming or eliminating the Electoral College
- (B) Preventing third party "spoilers" from running in national elections
- (C) Amending the Constitution to ban political parties
- (D) Requiring all states to allocate electoral votes on a winner-take-all basis

# Answer to Question #2

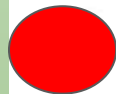
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Amending the Constitution to ban political parties



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# Practice Question #3

"The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States . . . The number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative . . .

"SECTION 3 "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."

Sections 2 and 3 of the United States Constitution

The excerpt above is the result of which compromise in the Constitutional Convention?

Choose 1 answer:

- (A) Compromise on the Bill of Rights
- (B) Compromise on the Electoral College
- (C) Great (Connecticut) Compromise
- (D) Three-Fifths Compromise



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# Remember for this Lesson



## Key points

- An amendment is a change or addition to the Constitution.
- When drafting the Constitution, the Framers detailed an amendment process in Article V that gave citizens avenues to change the Constitution.

**Constitutional debates that exist today:** Even today, some of the issues at the heart of the debates at the Constitutional Convention still exist. Some of these questions include: How strong should the federal government be? What powers do the states have? 3) Which individual rights are protected? These debates surface in issues like the federal government's surveillance of US citizens following the attacks on September 11th and the role of the federal government in public school education.





# Social Studies Virtual Learning

## **AP Government:**

### **U1 Review**

**May 6, 2020**



## **AP Government**

**Lesson: May 6, 2020**

**Objective: PMI 1. A & B**

Explain the constitutional principles of separation of powers and checks and balances, as well as the implications of these on the US political system.

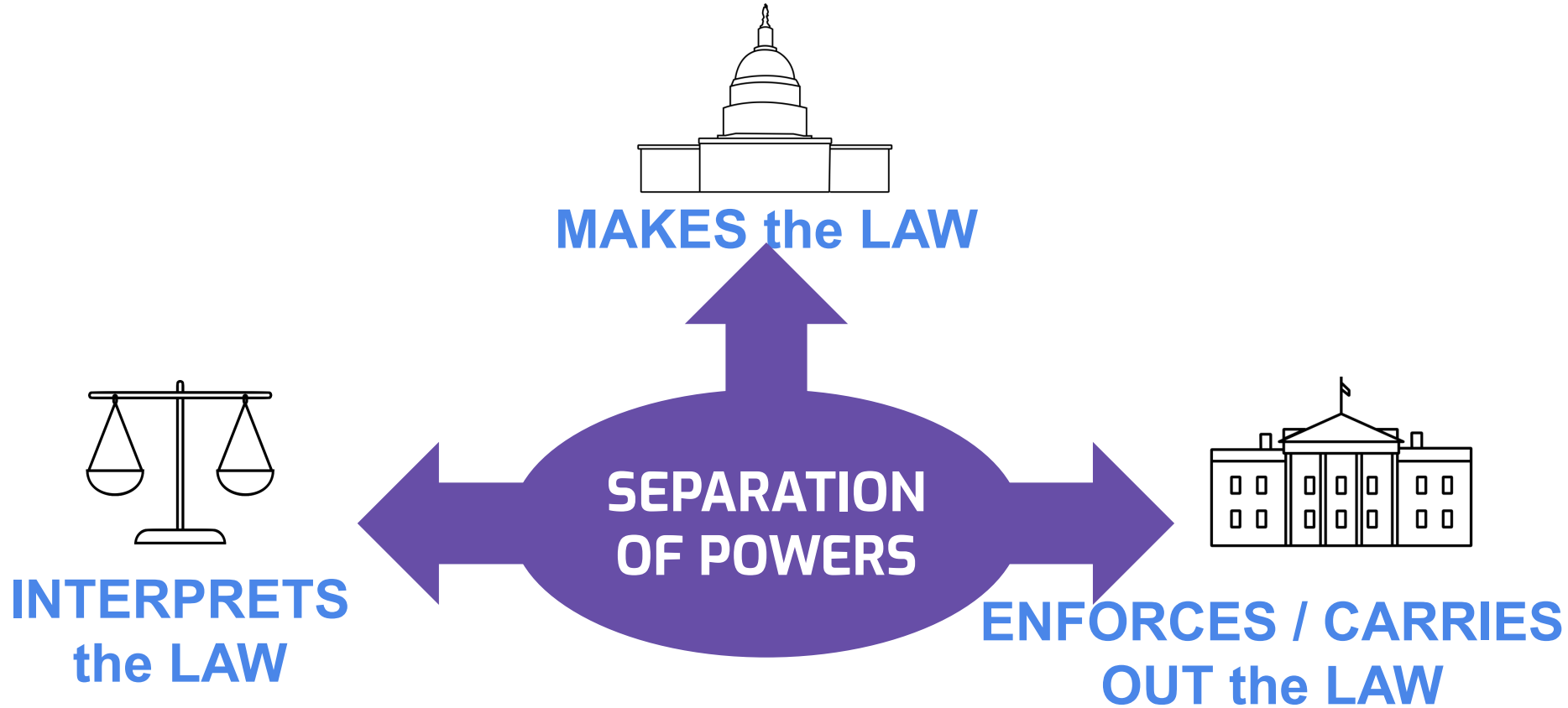
**Lesson Focus Area:**

**Federalist 51**

## Warm Up

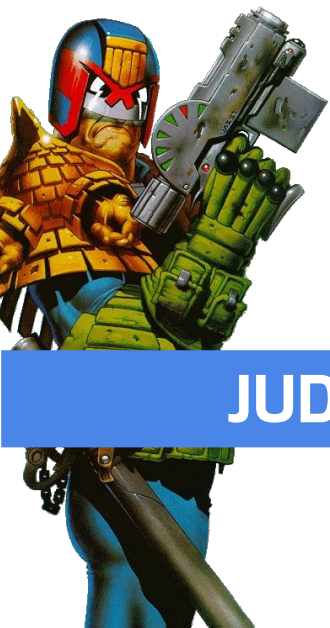
How are the ideas of separation of powers and checks & balances similar to the idea of federalism?

# Lesson: Let's Review- Separation of Powers



The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary, in the same hands, whether of one, a few, or many, and whether hereditary, self-appointed, or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny.

Federalist 47



Why wouldn't our Founders have been fans of dystopian comic character **Judge Dredd**?

**BECAUSE HE WAS THE JUDGE, JURY, and EXECUTIONER!**

J  
U  
R  
Y

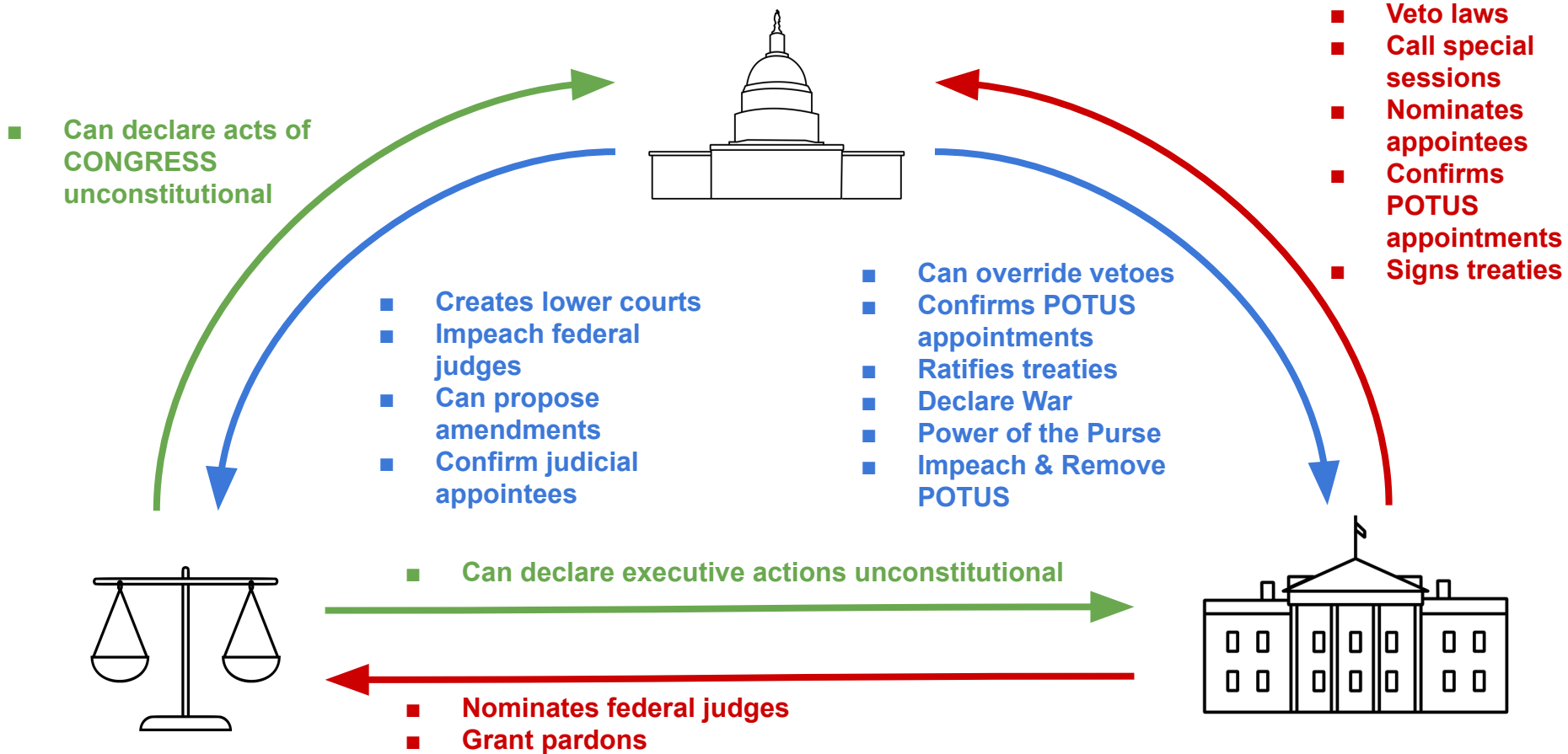
JUDGE



EXECUTIONER

TYRANNY

# Lesson: Let's Review- Checks & Balances





## Lesson: Let's Review- *Federalist 51*

Explain how this quote connects to the idea of separation of powers and/or checks & balances.

“But the great security against a gradual concentration of the several powers in the same department [branch], consists in giving to those who administer each department the necessary constitutional means and personal motives to resist encroachments of the others. The provision for defense must in this, as in all other cases, be made commensurate to the danger of attack. Ambition must be made to counteract ambition. The interest of the man must be connected with the constitutional rights of the place.”

## Lesson: Let's Review- *Federalist 51*

Explain how this quote connects to the idea of separation of powers and/or checks & balances.

“It may be a reflection on human nature, that such devices should be necessary to control the abuses of government. But what is government itself, but the greatest of all reflections on human nature? If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself. A dependence on the people is, no doubt, the primary control on the government; but experience has taught mankind the necessity of auxiliary precautions.”

## Lesson: Let's Review- *Federalist 51*

Explain how this quote connects to the idea of separation of powers and/or checks & balances.

“But it is not possible to give to each department an equal power of self-defense. In republican government, the legislative authority necessarily predominates. The remedy for this inconveniency is to divide the legislature into different branches; and to render them, by different modes of election and different principles of action, as little connected with each other as the nature of their common functions and their common dependence on the society will admit. It may even be necessary to guard against dangerous encroachments by still further precautions. As the weight of the legislative authority requires that it should be thus divided, the weakness of the executive may require, on the other hand, that it should be fortified.”

## Activity: Practice Question

In the Constitution as originally ratified in 1788, the provisions regarding which of the following most closely approximate popular, majoritarian democracy?

- A) Election of members of the House of Representatives
- B) Election of members of the Senate
- C) Election of the President
- D) Ratification of treaties

## Activity: Practice Question → Answer

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## Activity: Practice Question

Which of the following is an example of checks and balances, as established by the Constitution?

- A) A requirement that states lower than legal drinking age to 18 as a condition of receiving funds through federal highway grant programs
- B) Media criticism of public officials during an election campaign period
- C) The Supreme Court's ability to overturn a lower court decision
- D) The requirement that presidential appointments to the Supreme Court be approved by the Senate

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- D) The requirement that presidential appointments to the Supreme Court be approved by the Senate**

# Reflection

**Explain** the constitutional principles of separation of powers and checks & balances, as well as the implications of these two ideas on the US political system.



**Discuss & Explain**  
Often include listing + defining + describing. The highest hurdle verbs.

**Describe**  
What are the most significant characteristics of a word or concept? Make sure you include how or why the word or concept is important to the question.

**Define**  
Write the meaning of a word or concept. Adding an example can't hurt.

**List**  
A simple enumeration of some factors or characteristics that are clearly labeled.

High Hurdle Verbs

Low Hurdle Verbs

---

**Most students pay attention to the nouns in a question. Pay attention to the verbs and earn higher FRQ scores.**