

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).