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 I

Section 1. 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 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have Qualifications for Electors which shall not be less than that required of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

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

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union according to their respective Numbers, but the House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen by the People for the Term of two Years, and the Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but as the Population of the United States shall increase the Number of Representatives shall increase accordingly until a Number equal to the whole Number of Members of the two Houses of Congress shall be arrived at.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

Section 3. The Senators of the United States shall be chosen every second Year by the Electors in each State, who shall have Qualifications for Electors which shall not be less than that required for the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been a Citizen of the United States for nine Years, who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

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 choose their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall consent to take other Office.

Section 4. The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof, but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of Choosing 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 keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, except such Parts as may in their Judgment appear to them proper to be private. And if any Member of either House shall, without Leave of Congress, absent himself from any Meeting of that House, unless for the Sickness or Disability of that Member, each House may cause such Absence to be recorded, and to be a Matter of Privilege to the House in which such Absence shall happen.

Section 6. The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, which shall be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Sessions 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 for any Thing said during their Attendance at either of the Sessions of Congress, or in going to and returning therefrom.

Section 7. No Bill shall be passed unless by a majority of each of the Houses, unless it shall have been read twice before the Premises of a Session, and not less than three days after it is read the second time, unless the House, by a two-thirds Majority, shall agree to take it up.

Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Proceedings of the other House, and when any Member shall be contested, the Decision shall be made by the majority of each House.

Section 8. The Congress shall have Power...
Article II.

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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 Service by the Congress; 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 Offices; and he shall have Power to grant Pardons for Crimes committed against the United States, except in Cases of Treason or Impeachment.

Section 2. He shall have Power to appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and to receive Public Ministers from the Sovereign States, and the Country shall have Power to declare War, grant Peace, and bind the States under such Conditions as shall be approved by a Two-thirds Vote of the Senate and House of Representatives; but the Congress shall not have Power to declare War, except in Cases of War under the United States, nor shall they be able to bind the States under the United States.

This Constitution 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 3. The President shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and be subject to a Vote of the Senate.

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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 to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, under any Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, — to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other Public Ministers and Consuls, — to all Cases of a civil Nature, whereany State shall be Party: — 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 a Citizen of any State and Citizens of the Indians living within such State: — between Citizens of the same State claiming Land under Grants of different States: — in all Cases of Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures arising under this Constitution, and in all Cases in which a State shall be Party.

Article IV.

Section 1. Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings 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 People of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

Section 3. No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Tax or Impost on any Goods, Merchandise, or Produce, imported into any other State, or on any Article exported from any State; nor shall any State, export any Article into another State, in which it shall be lawful to transport it unexported; and no State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tariff on Articles imported into any other State.
Article V.

The 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 deemed to prejudice any Claims of the United States against foreign Nations.

Article VI.

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 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.

Article VII.

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

Done 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 Independence of the United States of America the Tenth. In Witness Whereof We have hereunto subscribed our Names.

[Signatures]

Washington, President.

[Other Signatures]

[Images of Signatures]