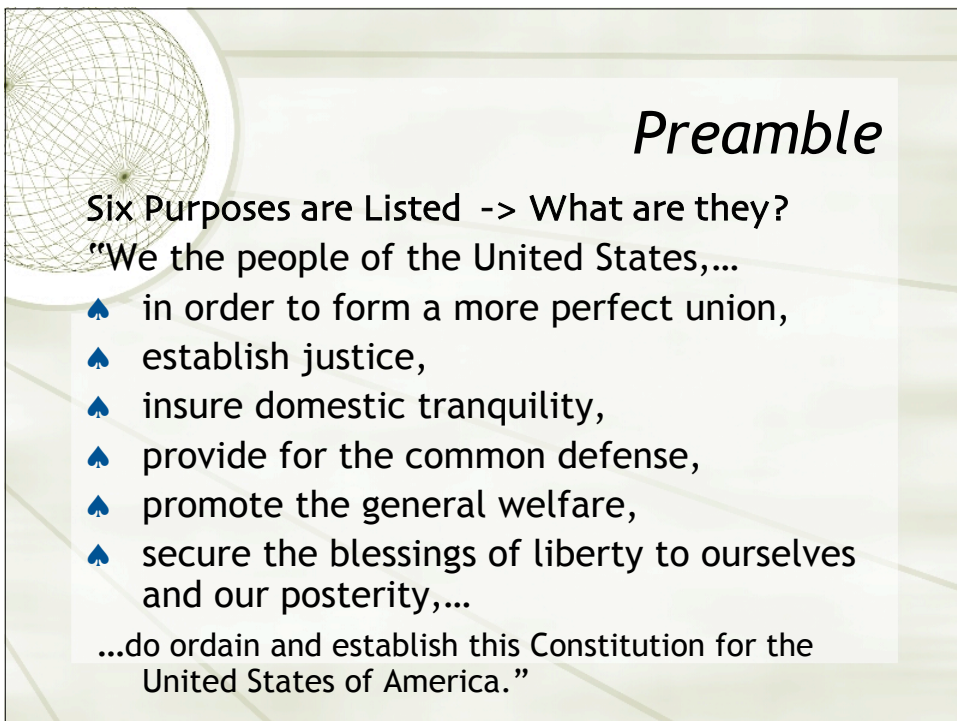




# *US Constitution*

Articles I-VIII



## *Preamble*

Six Purposes are Listed -> What are they?

"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,
- ♣ secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity,...

...do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."



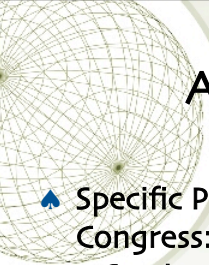
## Article I - The Legislative Branch

- ▲ Bicameral Legislature
  - ▲ Senate - Upper House
  - ▲ House of Representatives - Lower House
  - ▲ Census = 435 set as House total
- ▲ Qualifications:
  - House: 25 years old  
Citizen for 7 years  
Reside in state
  - Senate: 30 years old  
Citizen for 9 years  
Reside in State
- ▲ Powers of House - But NOT the Senate
  - ▲ Revenue Bills
  - ▲ Elect President if electoral college fails to find majority
  - ▲ *IMPEACH* officials
- ▲ Powers of Senate - But NOT the House
  - ▲ Ratify Treaties - 2/3 Vote
  - ▲ Elect V.P. if electoral college does not
  - ▲ Try officials who have been *IMPEACHED*
  - ▲ Approve by Majority: Presidential appointments



## Article I - The Legislative Branch


- ▲ HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW:
- ▲ PASS EACH HOUSE IN CONGRESS IN IDENTICAL FORM BY SIMPLE MAJORITY
- ▲ When a bill is submitted to the President: OPTIONS
  - ▲ Signed into LAW
  - ▲ Veto
  - ▲ Ignored by President - after 10 days it becomes law, or there is a "pocket veto"
- ▲ Veto - Congress may override a veto with 2/3 vote
- ▲ Special Privileges of Congressional Members:
  - ▲ Immunity to Arrest - exceptions: felony, treason
  - ▲ Immunity to libel or slander - statements IN CONGRESS
  - ▲ Prohibitions of Congressional Members:
    - ▲ Can not hold another office
    - ▲ Can not vote themselves a pay raise



## Article I - The Legislative Branch

### ▲ Specific Powers of Congress: Found in Article 1, Section 8

- ▲ Levy and Collect taxes
- ▲ Borrow money
- ▲ Coin money and regulate currency
- ▲ Establish Post Offices
- ▲ Provide for Army
- ▲ Provide for Navy
- ▲ Issue Patents
- ▲ Issue Copyrights
- ▲ Regulate Commerce -> interstate and foreign
- ▲ Establish uniform rules of naturalization
- ▲ Establish uniform rules of bankruptcies
- ▲ Declare War
- ▲ Make laws "necessary and proper for executing provisions"



## Article I - The Legislative Branch

### Other Powers:

- ▲ Collect and Levy taxes - 3 purpose
- ▲ Pay Public Debt
- ▲ Provide Defense
- ▲ Promote General Welfare -> General Welfare Clause
- ▲ Declare War
- ▲ Only in response to request by president
- ▲ Houses vote separately
- ▲ Who are the presiding officers of: the House? Senate?
- ▲ To expel a member of Congress it takes what majority?
- ▲ To censure a member it takes what majority?
- ▲ Forbidden to U.S. Government
- ▲ Suspend writ of Habeas Corpus
- ▲ Forbidden to State Governments
- ▲ Make treaties, coin money, issue paper money



## Article II -> Executive Department

### ♣ Qualifications for President

- ♣ Age 35
- ♣ Natural Born citizen
- ♣ Reside in US for 14 years
- ♣ Electoral College -> function
- ♣ House elects president if electoral college does not
- ♣ Senate elects vice president

### ♣ Powers of President

- ♣ Commander-in-Chief
- ♣ Grant pardons
- ♣ Make treaties, appointments



## Article III & IV

### ♣ Article III -> The Judicial Branch

- ♣ The "least dangerous branch?"
- ♣ Provisions for a Federal Judiciary
- ♣ Checks upon the Judiciary

### ♣ Article IV ->

- ♣ Full Faith and Credit Clause





## Article V, VI, VII

### ♣ Article V -> Amending the Constitution

#### ♣ 2 Ways to propose

♣ Both houses of Congress--2/3

or

♣ Convention of States--2/3

#### ♣ 2 Ways to ratify

♣ State Legislatures--3/4

or

♣ Convention of States--3/4

### ♣ Article VI

#### ♣ Supremacy Clause

#### ♣ Article VI, Section 2

♣ "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 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."

### ♣ Article VII

#### ♣ Ratification