





# SECTION V

**National Government**



# Tennesseans in National Government

## Introduction

Throughout the state's rich political heritage, Tennesseans have played important roles in shaping the character of our nation's government. Presidents Jackson, Polk, and Andrew Johnson all called Tennessee home. Many other elected and appointed national offices have been held by Tennesseans, as well. Albert Gore, Jr., served as Vice President; the late Senator Howard H. Baker, Jr., served as Republican leader of the U.S. Senate and White House Chief of Staff under President Ronald Reagan; current Senator Lamar Alexander served as Secretary of Education under President George H.W. Bush; former Senator Bill Frist served as Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the late Cordell Hull served as Secretary of State under President Franklin Roosevelt; and the late Jo Byrns served as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, along with many others.

Today, Tennesseans remain influential at all levels of federal government. This influence has proven to be an asset for Tennesseans, as the federal government has assumed an increasing role in many facets of state government. Having fellow Tennesseans in national government is important to Tennessee.

Members of Congress carry out another vital role for Tennesseans in the federal government. The congressional delegation is not only responsible for making federal law and overseeing the administration of the U.S. government, but it also assists citizens in dealing with federal agencies. Members and their staff spend a lot of time handling constituents' requests.

## United States Senate

The Senate is made up of one hundred members, two popularly elected from each state of the Union. Senators are elected to six-year terms; one-third of the members stand for election every two years. The U.S. Constitution requires that members of the Senate be at least thirty years old and citizens of the United States for at least nine years. The vice president of the United States serves as president of the Senate.

Historically, the role of the Senate has changed continually as the nation has developed. Originally, the Constitution provided that members of the Senate would be elected by the state Legislature, and it was felt by the framers of the Constitution that the Senate would take a secondary role in Congress, more of a revisory capacity to the House of Representatives. It was also felt that the Senate would remain insulated from the rapid change associated with the popular election of the members. The Senate has remained distinctively different from the House of Representatives. This distinction has resulted from tradition, as well as from Constitutional differences.

The Constitution gives the Senate some powers that are not shared with the House of Representatives. Chief among them are the powers to advise and consent on treaties between our nation and foreign governments and to confirm executive Cabinet members and federal judges appointed by the president.

With only one hundred members, the Senate can afford to be more relaxed in conducting its legislative business. Also, because each senator is an "ambassador" from a sovereign state, he is afforded more deference and indulgence than any indi-

vidual House member. The concept of “senatorial courtesy” allows each senator to exercise all of the prerogatives available to each member with the deferential respect of the other members. Traditionally, debate has been extensive in the Senate, and the power to amend on the floor has remained very broad. The Senate may spend several days considering individual pieces of legislation.

The majority party elects a majority leader who becomes the central focus of partisan policy matters. The majority party also selects the committee chairs and has control over most of the Senate staff.

## United States Senators



**Lamar Alexander (R)**  
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4944

In 2016, the nation’s governors created the James Madison Award to recognize members of Congress who support federalism and the 10th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guaranteeing states’ rights. The governors named Sen. Lamar Alexander as the first-ever recipient of the award for his work to fix No Child Left Behind. The new education law Alexander worked to pass was signed by the president in December 2015. *The Wall Street Journal* called it “the largest devolution of federal power to the states in a quarter century.”

In 2013, the National Conference of State Legislatures gave Sen. Alexander and three other senators its “Restoring the Balance” Award for protecting states’ rights, the first time in 10 years the organization gave this award to U.S. senators.

Alexander, a seventh-generation Tennessean born and raised in Maryville, was twice elected governor of Tennessee. He has always believed that in most cases the best decisions are made by those closest to the people.

Today, Alexander chairs the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee.

Alexander is also chairman of the Senate Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee, where he works to boost funding for basic energy research and invest in our inland waterways and harbors.

Alexander was first elected to the Senate in 2002 and has been re-elected twice. His Republican colleagues elected him three times to be chairman of the Senate Republican Conference.

He has previously served as president of the University of Tennessee and as U.S. Secretary of Education under George H.W. Bush.

He is a classical and country pianist and the author of seven books.

Lamar Alexander and his wife, Honey, have four children, nine grandchildren, and a dog named Rufus.

**Marsha Blackburn (R)**

*357 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3344*



Marsha Blackburn was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2018, and is currently serving her first term representing the state of Tennessee. Before her election to the Senate, Marsha represented Tennessee's 7th Congressional District.

Marsha's public service is dedicated to promoting opportunities for women and making America a more prosperous place to live. Marsha's leadership philosophy is based on her experiences in the private sector as a small business woman and author, as well as being a mother and grandmother.

Marsha went to college on a 4-H scholarship and worked her way through school selling books for the Southwestern Company as one of their first female sales associates, and later as one of their first female sales managers.

She then became Director of Retail Fashion and Special Events for the Castner Knott Company, which was a Nashville-based regional department store. Later, Marsha founded her own business, Marketing Strategies, which focused on the retail marketplace, as well as electronic and print media.

Marsha began her career in public service in 1995 when she was named executive director of the Tennessee Film, Entertainment, and Music Commission. In 1998, she was elected to the Tennessee State Senate. In the state legislature, she earned a reputation for fiscal responsibility and government accountability by identifying waste and offering realistic solutions to Tennessee's budget challenges.

While serving in the Tennessee Senate, Marsha led a statewide grassroots campaign to defeat a proposed state income tax. The tax was defeated, and Marsha's leadership earned her a reputation as an anti-tax champion. In 2014, the people of Tennessee passed an amendment to the state constitution to expressly prohibit a state income tax—a fitting cap to a 14-year battle.

In 2002, Marsha was elected to represent the people of Tennessee's 7th Congressional District based on her record in the state legislature. She brought her Tennessee values to Washington, DC, and became a leader in the fight for small, efficient federal government that is accountable to its citizens. As a Congressman, Marsha was often selected by her colleagues to lead the charge for principled conservatism. Her congressional career was also noted for her Chairmanship of the Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, as well as bipartisan expertise in defending the rights of songwriters and performers.

Marsha is a member of numerous charitable organizations and is an active member of her church, Christ Presbyterian.

Marsha and her husband, Chuck, live in Williamson County, Tennessee. They have two children, Mary Morgan (Paul) Ketchel and Chad (Hillary) Blackburn, and two grandsons. Originally from Laurel, Mississippi, Marsha is a graduate of Mississippi State University.

## United States House of Representatives

The U.S. House of Representatives is popularly elected every two years. Members must be at least twenty-five years old and must be a citizen of the United States for at least seven years. The Constitution of the United States does not provide for the exact number of representatives; rather, it leaves the matter up to Congress to determine. It does provide, however, that each state should have representation proportional to its population as part of the nation's population. The apportionment is to be recalculated every ten years, when a nationwide census is conducted to determine population.

Originally, the House of Representatives had sixty-five members. As state populations grew in relation to one another, and as new states entered the Union, Congress added additional seats rather than reducing any existing state delegations. By 1910, the House had grown to 435 members. Numerous attempts were made to increase the size further, but the House and Senate could not agree on what action should be taken. In 1929, a law was passed that permanently set the number of representatives at 435 and provided for automatic reapportionment of these seats every ten years. This process results in some states gaining seats and others losing seats, depending on shifts in the population. In the 1971 reapportionment, Tennessee went from nine seats to eight. In 1981, the population proportions had shifted in the opposite direction, resulting in the return of a nine-member House delegation. Subsequent census population proportions again returned nine representatives from Tennessee to Congress. The drawing of districts within the state's boundaries is the responsibility of the Tennessee General Assembly.

Unlike the Senate, the House of Representatives conducts its business through a complex system of rules and procedures. Debate is limited, and the action taken in committees is much more difficult to modify through floor action. For the most part, these differences are a result of the larger number of members, making organization a prerequisite to accomplishment. Because of this, action has been much faster, and party discipline has traditionally been more influential in shaping the nature of legislation.

The framers of the Constitution envisioned the House of Representatives as being more closely representative of the will and mood of the country. For this reason, the Constitution provides that bills to create taxes must originate in the House. This was designed to protect the electorate from over-taxation or "unfair" taxes similar to those experienced under British rule.

## United States Congressmen

### Phil Roe (R)

102 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-6356

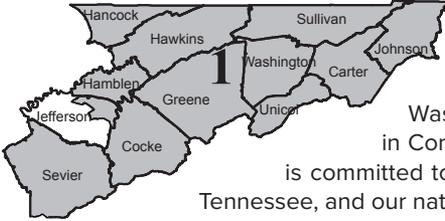
District 1

*Carter, Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson (in part), Johnson, Sevier, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington Counties.*



Phil Roe represents the First Congressional District of Tennessee.

A resident of Washington County serving his sixth term in Congress, Phil has a strong work ethic and is committed to working on behalf of the First District, Tennessee, and our nation.



A native of Tennessee, Phil was born on July 21, 1945, in Clarksville.

He earned a degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry from Austin Peay State University in 1967 and went on to earn his Medical Degree from the University of Tennessee in 1970. Upon graduation, he served two years in the United States Army Medical Corps.

Congressman Roe is Ranking Member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs and chaired the committee in the 115th Congress. Additionally, he serves on the House Education and Labor Committee. Previously, he was a member of the Joint Select Committee on Solvency of Multiemployer Pension Plans.

As a physician, Congressman Roe has become an active player in the effort to reform our nation's health care system. He is the co-chair of the House GOP Doctors Caucus and a co-chair of the Congressional Academic Medicine Caucus. As the chair of the Republican Study Committee's Health Care Task Force for the past three congresses, Dr. Roe has helped write a patient-centered, free-market alternative to the Affordable Care Act.

Prior to serving in Congress, Phil served as the Mayor of Johnson City from 2007 to 2009 and Vice Mayor from 2003 to 2007. He ran a successful medical practice in Johnson City for 31 years, delivering close to 5,000 babies. Phil has three children—David C. Roe, John Roe, and Whitney Larkin—and is a proud grandfather. He and his wife, Clarinda, live in Jonesborough, and he is a member of Munsey United Methodist Church.



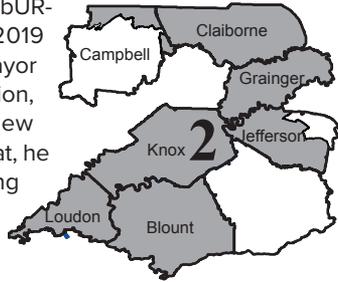
**Tim Burchett (R)**

1122 Longworth House Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20515  
 (202) 225-5435  
 District 2

*Blount, Campbell (in part), Claiborne, Grainger, Jefferson (in part), Knox, and Loudon Counties.*

Congressman Tim Burchett (BUR-  
 chet) took office in January 2019  
 after serving eight years as mayor

of Knox County, Tennessee. During his administration, he cut debt, kept tax rates low, and paid for a new elementary school without adding debt. Prior to that, he started a successful small business before serving 16 years in the state legislature, four years in the State House followed by 12 years in the State Senate. Congressman Burchett currently serves on the House Budget, Foreign Affairs, and Small Business committees. His goals include supporting veterans, identifying free-market healthcare solutions, and facilitating energy independence.



**Chuck Fleischmann (R)**

2410 Rayburn House Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20515  
 (202) 225-3271  
 District 3

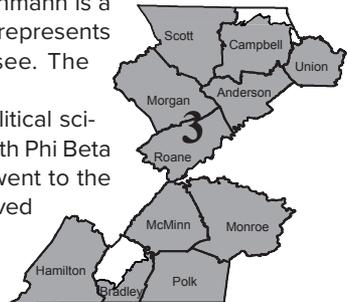
*Anderson, Bradley (in part), Campbell (in part), Hamilton, McMinn, Monroe, Morgan, Polk, Roane, Scott, and Union Counties.*

Congressman Chuck Fleischmann is a conservative Republican who represents the Third District of Tennessee. The

District is comprised of 11 counties.

Chuck earned his undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Illinois. He received both Phi Beta Kappa and Magna Cum Laude honors. He then went to the University of Tennessee law school where he received his Doctor of Jurisprudence.

For 24 years, Chuck and his wife ran a small business together in Chattanooga after they both graduated from law school at the University of Tennessee.



Chuck has served on the board of the National Craniofacial Association and on the board of the Cherokee Area Council of Boy Scouts of America. He has also served as the president of the Chattanooga Bar Association and chairman of the Chattanooga Lawyers Pro Bono Committee.

Since taking office, Chuck has a 100% pro-life voting record and continues to support legislation that protects the Second Amendment rights of East Tennesseans.

Chuck serves on the Appropriations Committee which is vitally important to the residents of the Third District. Within the Committee, he serves on two crucial subcommittees:

- Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies
- Homeland Security

Chuck’s role on the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies subcommittee allows him to fight for funding for the Chickamauga Lock, a key East Tennessee infrastructure project. In addition, this subcommittee assignment is of paramount importance to the northern region of the Third District which is home to Oak Ridge National Lab, Y-12 National Security Complex, and a large environmental cleanup mission, all of which rely on funds appropriated by this subcommittee.

In the 116th Congress, Chuck was named Ranking Member on the Homeland Security Subcommittee. As the Ranking Member, or top Republican, Chuck leads the charge to provide funding for the government agencies that secure our homeland, including the United States Coast Guard, Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

Chuck and his wife, Brenda, live in Ooltewah, Tennessee, and have three boys: Chuckie, Jamie, and Jeffrey.

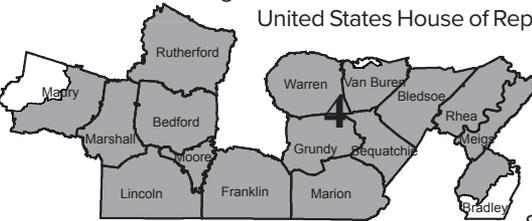
**Scott DesJarlais (R)**

*2301 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-6831*

District 4

*Bedford, Bledsoe, Bradley (in part), Franklin, Grundy, Lincoln, Marion, Marshall, Maury (in part), Meigs, Moore, Rhea, Rutherford, Sequatchie, Van Buren (in part), and Warren Counties.*

Congressman Scott DesJarlais represents the Fourth Congressional District of Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives.



Congressman DesJarlais earned degrees in chemistry and psychology from the University of South Dakota and went on to receive his Doctor of Medicine from the University of South Dakota School of Medicine.

He moved to Tennessee more than two decades ago to practice medicine at the Grandview Medical Center in Jasper.

Congressman DesJarlais is in his fifth term and serves on two committees that allow him to directly address and influence many issues that are important to the Fourth District. These committees are Armed Services and Agriculture.

Congressman DesJarlais and his wife, Amy, have three children: Tyler, Ryan, and “little” sister, Maggie. They are active members of the Epiphany Episcopal Church in Sherwood, where Amy grew up.



### Jim Cooper (D)

1536 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4311  
District 5

*Cheatham (in part), Davidson, and Dickson Counties.*

Representing Tennessee's Fifth Congressional District, Jim Cooper

was born on June 19, 1954, in Nashville, Tennessee, and was

raised in Shelbyville. He earned a B.A. in History and Economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1975 as a Morehead Scholar, serving as co-editor of the *Daily Tar Heel*. He also earned a B.A./M.A. in Politics and Economics as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University in 1977 and a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1980. He is married and has three children.

He represented Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District from 1983 to 1995. During that time, he served on the House Committee on the Budget and House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Cooper was elected to his second stint in Congress in 2002, serving a more urban and suburban constituency that includes Cheatham, Davidson (including Nashville) and Dickson Counties. He is on the House Armed Services Committee where he serves as Chairman of the Strategic Forces Subcommittee and as a member of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee and the Intelligence and Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee. He also serves on the House Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Oversight and Reform where he is a member of the National Security Subcommittee.



### John Rose (R)

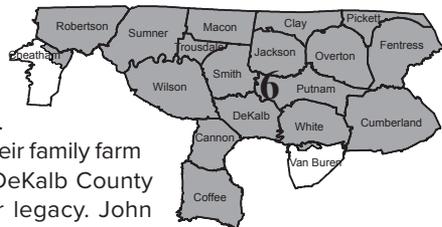
1232 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4231  
District 6

*Cannon, Cheatham (in part), Clay, Coffee, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Robertson, Smith, Sumner, Trousdale, Van Buren (in part), White, and Wilson Counties.*

Congressman

John Rose grew up in Cookeville, Tennessee in Putnam County and is a lifelong resident of Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

As a child, he worked with his father on their family farm in the Temperance Hall community in DeKalb County to continue the family farm's 200-year legacy. John graduated from Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville with a bachelor's degree in agribusiness economics. He went on to complete his Master of Science in agricultural economics at Purdue University and his Juris Doctorate at Vanderbilt University.



After law school, John co-founded Transcender Corporation, a company that earned the prestigious Music City Future 50 Award for five consecutive years. Transcender Corporation was sold in November 2000 to Information Holdings, Inc. later becoming part of Kaplan, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Graham Holdings Company, formerly known as the Washington Post Company. Rose currently owns and is the president of Boson Software, LLC, which trains IT professionals across the country. In 2002, at the age of 37, he was appointed Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Tennessee. He has chaired the Tennessee State Fair Association since 2010.

John and his wife, Chelsea, have always been active in their community and enthusiastic supporters of Future Farmers of America, the Tennessee State Fair, and Tennessee Technological University. Having long been involved in trying to make his community and state a better place in which to live, raise families, and prosper, John has often been disturbed by the disparity between politicians’ promises and the actual outcomes for our state and country. This concern led him to successfully run for Congress in 2018, winning the general election by 70% of the vote. His deep desire to fight for the next generation of farmers, entrepreneurs, and all young Americans is his constant inspiration, and he believes if Tennessee values are applied in Washington we will truly build a better future for our nation.

In a rare honor for a freshman Congressman, John has been named to one of the most powerful committees in Congress: House Financial Services. This appointment gives him a platform from which to advocate for affordable housing and push back on the onerous federal regulation of local community banks across the Sixth District.

As a first-term Member of Congress, John looks forward to fighting for expanded rural broadband access and better infrastructure to create more and better jobs and a higher quality of life for everyday Tennesseans throughout the Sixth District. He believes we must secure our borders, stand for life, support our men and women in uniform, preserve the Second Amendment, and solve the crisis that is our national debt. With his Christian faith as his cornerstone, John is passionate about putting Tennessee values to work in Washington. He and his wife, Chelsea, continue to live in Cookeville with their son, Guy.

**Mark Green (R)**

533 Cannon House Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20515  
 (202) 225-2811  
 District 7



*Benton (in part), Chester, Decatur, Giles, Hardeman, Hardin, Henderson, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Lawrence, Lewis, Maury (in part), McNairy, Montgomery, Perry, Stewart, Wayne, and Williamson Counties.*



Congressman Mark Green took the oath of office to represent the Seventh District of Tennessee on January 3, 2019. It is the exact oath he first took as a cadet, on the historic Plain at West Point more than 30 years earlier. A successful business leader, decorated combat veteran,

and ER physician, Green served in the Tennessee State Senate before his election to Congress.

Throughout his life, first in the Army and then as a Tennessee State Senator, Mark's love for our country's founding principles has inspired his service. His life experiences make him ideally suited to serve Tennesseans of the Seventh District. Congressman Green's experience building a successful healthcare company equips him to take on wasteful spending and overregulation. His 24 years of service, between the Academy, active duty Army, and Army Reserves—including two trips to Iraq and one to Afghanistan—have impressed upon him the need for strong American leadership internationally, a globally responsive military, and a well-cared-for military family.

As a physician, Green recognizes life begins at conception and firmly advocates for the unborn. He brings the unique perspective of doctor, healthcare administrator, and cancer survivor to the issues surrounding healthcare in America. His legislative experience in Tennessee readies him to fight for all our rights and liberties, including religious liberty and the right to bear arms.

The son of a hardworking father and loving mother, Green grew up on a dirt road in Mississippi. Mark came to Tennessee in his last assignment in the Army as the flight surgeon for the premier special operations aviation regiment. As a Night Stalker, Dr. Green deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan in the War on Terror. His most memorable mission was the capture of Saddam Hussein. During the mission, he interrogated Hussein for six hours. The encounter is detailed in a book Green authored, *A Night With Saddam*. Congressman Green was awarded the Bronze Star, the Air Medal with V Device for Valor, among many others.

After his service in the Army, Green founded an emergency department staffing company that grew to over \$200 million in annual revenue. The company provided staffing to 52 hospitals across 11 states. He also founded two free medical clinics that provide healthcare to under-served populations in Memphis and Clarksville as well as numerous medical mission trips throughout the world.

Green was elected to the Tennessee State Senate in 2012, where he distinguished himself as a conservative leader that fought for freedom and smaller government for all Tennesseans. His many legislative accomplishments include the repeal of the Hall Income Tax—only the second time in U.S. history a state repealed an income tax—and the passage of the Tennessee Teacher Bill of Rights. He won the National Federation of Independent Businesses' Guardian of Small Business award, and Latinos for Tennessee's Legislator of the Year among numerous other awards.

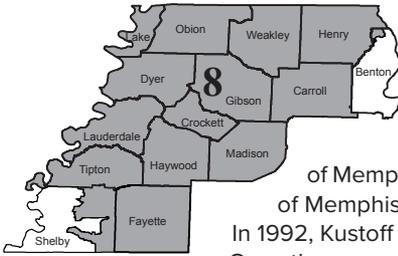
Green resides in Clarksville, Tenn., with his wife, Camilla. They have two grown children.

**David Kustoff (R)**

523 Cannon House Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20515  
 (202) 225-4714

District 8

*Benton, (in part), Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Haywood, Henry, Lake, Lauderdale, Madison, Obion, Shelby (in part), Tipton, and Weakley Counties.*



David Kustoff’s roots run deep in West

Tennessee. He was born and raised in Shelby County where he attended White Station High School. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Memphis and graduated in 1992 from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.

In 1992, Kustoff opened a law firm in Memphis, Tennessee.

Over the years, David has served in various roles for the Republican Party, such as Chairman of the Shelby County GOP from 1995 to 1999, Tennessee Chairman of Lamar Alexander’s successful run for U.S. Senate in 2002, and Tennessee Chairman of both Bush/Cheney presidential campaigns in 2000 and 2004.

Appointed U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee by President Bush in 2006, Kustoff set his sights on cleaning up government corruption and fighting violent crime and drugs. He oversaw the majority of the Tennessee Waltz trials that sent 12 defendants, including Senator John Ford, to federal prison.

In 2010, David joined the board of BankTennessee, where he put his leadership skills to work, advising the direction of the Community Bank that has served West Tennessee for more than 80 years.

Governor Bill Haslam appointed David to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission in 2015, where he oversaw the implementation of the Tennessee Promise program that provides last dollar Community College scholarships and Tennessee Reconnect, designed to help adults complete their college degrees.

In 2018, David was elected to his second term in the House of Representatives for the Eighth District of Tennessee. He is a member of the House Financial Services Committee and serves on three subcommittees: Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions; Diversity and Inclusion; and Housing, Community Development and Insurance.

Working with his colleagues on the Financial Services Committee, he will fight mandates and regulations that are crushing small businesses and will stand up against wasteful government spending.

He will continue to fight for the conservative principles that have defined his career; he stands ready to challenge the way things are done in Washington.

David and his wife, Roberta, live in Germantown and have two children.



**Stephen Ira Cohen (D)**

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(202) 225-3265

District 9

Shelby County (in part).

Representing the Ninth Congressional District, Stephen Ira “Steve” Cohen, a native Memphian, was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives on



November 7, 2006. Congressman Cohen is a member of the House Committee on the Judiciary; the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology; the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee; and the Helsinki Commission. He is the Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. Cohen is a member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus and is co-chairman of the Congressional Tourette Syndrome Caucus, the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus, and the Congressional Caucus on U.S.–Turkish Relations and Turkish Americans.

Congressman Cohen has distinguished himself as a passionate, progressive, and forthright voice, receiving national media recognition from *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, NBC Evening News, CNN, MSNBC, Stephen Colbert, and *The Daily Show*, among many others, for his strong stance against continuing the Iraq War, and as a proponent of an increased minimum wage, stem cell research, universal health care, increased funding of the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, energy innovations and independence, and the oversight role of Congress.

During his first term in Congress, Cohen sponsored House Resolution 194, which was the first official apology for slavery and Jim Crow laws passed by the House of Representatives. He led the Congressional delegation in securing \$530 million to help support Tennessee hospitals’ treatment of the state’s disproportionately poor population, and he authored a provision in the 2015 federal budget to increase funding for a grant program focused on reducing the backlog of untested sexual assault kits in America. In 2011, he co-authored bipartisan legislation to help members of the National Guard and Reserve obtain bankruptcy relief, should they need it. The legislation was signed into law by President Barack Obama. In August 2010, President Obama signed into law Congressman Cohen’s Securing the Protection of Our Enduring and Established Constitutional Heritage (SPEECH) Act, which protects American authors, journalists, and publishers from foreign defamation judgments that undermine the First Amendment and American due process standards. Civil rights and criminal justice reform have been major priorities for the Congressman. He cosponsored legislation to restore and improve the Voting Rights Act and voted for the First Step Act, now law, which shortens prison time for nonviolent drug offenders and allows for retroactive reductions for those serving unfair sentences due to racially disparate treatment of crack vs. powder cocaine. He also introduced the Police Training and Independent Review Act to encourage sensitivity training for police and independent investigations when police use of deadly force results in civilian deaths or injuries.

Because of his seniority on the Transportation Committee, in 2015 Congressman Cohen was appointed to the Conference Committee for the bipartisan, bicameral 5-year federal surface transportation reauthorization bill with select colleagues from the House of Representatives and Senate. As a senior member of the Judiciary Committee, in 2016 Congressman served on the Conference Committee to address the opioid crisis. The Congressman helped secure the \$30 million Choice Neighborhood Grant to fund the redevelopment of South City, and helped bring a Minority Business Development Agency Center to Memphis. He was also the lead proponent of both the Main2Main TIGER Grant, improving infrastructure in downtown Memphis and creating a pedestrian and bicycle path across the historic Harahan Bridge, and the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America grant, making repairs along Lamar Avenue, which is a nationally significant intermodal freight corridor. He has also been instrumental in securing funding for the Memphis Area Transit Authority (MATA), helping to fund projects such as restoring rail trolley service in Memphis. In 2018, Cohen's Safe Egress in Air Travel (SEAT) Act, which requires the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to establish a minimum seat size and minimum distance between rows of seats on commercial flights to ensure passenger safety, became law.

Elected to the Tennessee State Senate in 1982, Cohen represented the 30th Senatorial District for more than 24 years. Known as the father of the Tennessee Lottery for his nearly two-decade fight in the Tennessee State Senate to send a referendum on Tennessee's constitutional prohibition on lotteries to the people, Cohen passed legislation to implement the Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation and establish the lottery scholarship program. In the State Senate, Cohen was also a leading proponent for the arts, passing the Tennessee state cultural license plate bill, which funds arts programs to this day. In addition to helping fund AutoZone Park, then-Senator Cohen passed several significant acts, including a Graduated Drivers License law, felon voting rights reform, the T-Bo Act and the General Patton Act (animal welfare laws), DNA evidence and compensation for wrongful imprisonment, the Most Aggravated Drunk Driver Act, the 70 MPH Highway Speed Limit, the Imported Keg Beer Law, the Women's Restroom Equity Act, the first right to carry law, the Used Oil Collection Act, the Interstate Highway Wildflowers Bill, an anti-stalking law, and the Hate Crimes Bill. For his ethics work he received two "Bird Dog" Awards from Common Cause of Tennessee. Cohen passed legislation creating the Tennessee Holocaust Commemoration Commission and served as an ex officio member of the Commission from 1984–2006. In 2000, he received the Tennessee Holocaust Commission Commendation.

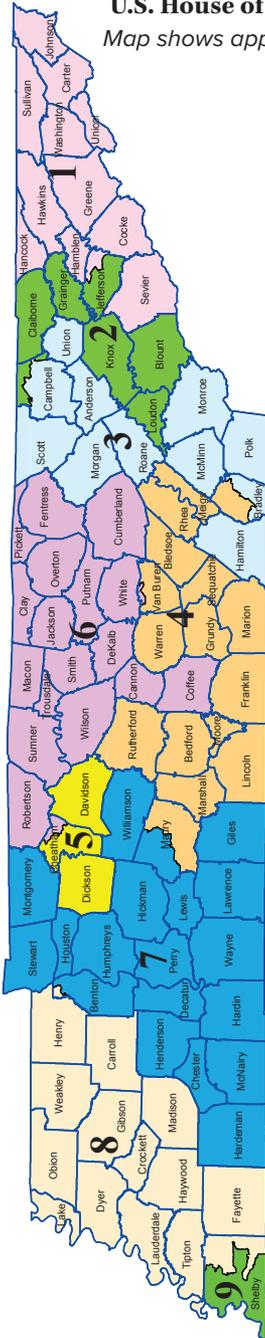
Among his awards as a State Senator, Cohen received the Tennessee Human Rights Campaign Public Leadership Award in 2002; the American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee Bill of Rights Award in 1992. He served on the National Conference of State Legislatures executive committee from 1998–2005; the Council of State Governments executive committee in 2002; and as a delegate to the 1980, 1992, 2004, 2008, 2012, and 2016 Democratic National Conventions. He served on the Platform Committee of the Democratic National Convention in 2000. He is a lifetime member of the NAACP and has been a member of Circuit Playhouse, Inc., Board of Directors since 1977. Cohen has served on the Memphis/Shelby County Center City Commission, the Memphis College of Art Board of Trustees, and the Memphis Zoological Council.

Congressman Cohen was named to *Business Tennessee* magazine “Power 100” in 2004, 2007, and 2009. Other honors include the 2014 Outstanding Legislator Award from the Tennessee Nurses Association; the 2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Memphis Alumni Association; the 2013 Public Policy Award from the Tourette Syndrome Association; the 2012 Defender of Children Award from First Focus Campaign for Children; the U.S. Humane Society “Humane Champion Award” in 2017, 2016, 2015, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2008, and 2007 and the U.S. Humane Society Legislative Leader Award in 2014, 2010, 2009, for his leadership on animal legislation; The Vida Foundation’s D. Emelio Castelar Work Recognition Award (International Humanitarian Award presented in Madrid, Spain), 2008; named one of the “Forward 50” by *The Forward*, America’s largest Jewish newspaper; Tennessee Communication Association’s Communicator of the Year; Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) Award of Excellence for Public Service; Tennessee Principals Association “Friend of Education Award”; Alpha Kappa Alpha Beta Epsilon Omega Chapter AKAward for Outstanding Public Service in the area of the Economic Keys to Success; honorary degree from LeMoyne-Owen College; Planned Parenthood “Bob James Award,” 2007; Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) Region IV Political Award; Tennessee Human Rights Campaign Public Leadership Award, 2002; and Bill of Rights Award, American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee, 1992.

Steve Cohen earned a B.A. from Vanderbilt University and a J.D. from The University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. After graduating from law school, Congressman Cohen served as the legal advisor to the Memphis Police Department from 1976–1978, as vice president of the 1977 Tennessee Constitutional Convention, as Shelby County Commissioner from 1978–1980, and as interim Shelby County General Sessions Court Judge in 1980. From 1978 until his election to Congress, Cohen had a private law practice in Memphis. Born on May 24, 1949, in Memphis, Steve Cohen is the son of the late Dr. Morris Cohen and the late Genevieve Cohen. To find out more about Congressman Cohen, visit his website at [cohen.house.gov](http://cohen.house.gov); visit his Facebook page at [fb.com/CongressmanSteveCohen](https://www.facebook.com/CongressmanSteveCohen); or follow him on Twitter @RepCohen.

### U.S. House of Representatives Districts

Map shows approximate areas represented.



District	County	District	County
1st	Carter, Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson (in part), Johnson, Sevier, Sullivan, Unicoi, Washington	7th	Benton (in part), Chester, Decatur, Giles, Hardeman, Hardin, Henderson, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Lawrence, Lewis, Maury (in part), McNairy, Montgomery, Perry, Stewart, Wayne, Williamson
2nd	Blount, Campbell (in part), Claiborne, Grainger, Jefferson (in part), Knox, Loudon	8th	Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Haywood, Henry, Lake, Lauderdale, Madison, Obion, Shelby (in part), Tipton, Weakley
3rd	Anderson, Bradley (in part), Campbell (in part), Hamilton, McMinn, Monroe, Morgan, Polk, Roane, Scott, Union	9th	Shelby (in part)
4th	Bedford, Bledsoe, Bradley (in part), Franklin, Grundy, Lincoln, Marion, Marshall, Maury (in part), Meigs, Moore, Rhea, Rutherford, Sequatchie, Van Buren (in part), Warren	10th	Davidson, Dickson, Giles, Lawrence, Wayne
5th	Cheatham (in part), Davidson, Dickson	11th	Blount, Campbell (in part), Cannon, Coffee, DeKalb, Franklin, Hamilton, Marion, Meigs, Moore, Rhea, Rutherford, Sequatchie, Van Buren (in part), Warren
6th	Cannon, Cheatham (in part), Clay, Coffee, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Robertson, Smith, Sumner, Trousdale, Van Buren (in part), White, Wilson		
7th	Anderson, Bradley (in part), Campbell (in part), Hamilton, McMinn, Monroe, Morgan, Polk, Roane, Scott, Union		
8th	Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Haywood, Henry, Lake, Lauderdale, Madison, Obion, Shelby (in part), Tipton, Weakley		
9th	Shelby (in part)		



# We the People

insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, 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.

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.

Article I

# United States Founding Documents

## The Constitution of the United States

### 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 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. [1.]\*** 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 the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

**[2.]** No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained 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.

**[3.]** Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective 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 shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed 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 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.

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

**[5.]** The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

**Section 3. [1.]** 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.‡

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\* Editor's Note: Brackets and numbers before clauses have been added throughout by editor.

† Language changed by Amendment 14.

‡ Language changed by Amendment 17.

[2.] Immediately after they shall be assembled 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 at the Expiration 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 sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.\*

[3.] 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.

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

[5.] The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of the President of the United States.

[6.] The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

[7.] Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

**Section 4. [1.]** 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 chusing Senators.

[2.] 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. [1.]** Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

[2.] Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behavior, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

[3.] Each House shall keep a Journal 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 of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

[4.] Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent 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. [1.]** The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United

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\* Language changed by Amendment 17.

† Language changed by Amendment 20.

States.‡ They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony 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.

[2.] 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 whereof shall have been increased 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. [1.]** All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills.

[2.] Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider 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 Vote 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. 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, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

[3.] 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.

**Section 8. [1.]** The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

[2.] To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

[3.] To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

[4.] To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

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

[6.] To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

[7.] To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

‡ Language changed by Amendment 27.

[8.] 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;

[9.] To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

[10.] To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offenses against the Law of Nations;

[11.] To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

[12.] To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

[13.] To provide and maintain a Navy;

[14.] To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

[15.] To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

[16.] 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;

[17.] To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession 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, and other needful Buildings; —And

[18.] 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.

**Section 9. [1.]** 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 a Tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

[2.] The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.

[3.] No Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.

[4.] No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or Enumeration herein before directed to be taken.\*

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

[6.] 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 bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.

[7.] No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

[8.] No Title of Nobility 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,

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\* Language changed by Amendment 16.

accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

**Section 10. [1.]** No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

**[2.]** 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 its inspection Laws: and the net 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 be subject to the Revision and Control of the Congress.

**[3.]** No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, 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 War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.

## Article II

**Section 1. [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:

**[2.]** 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.

**[3.]** 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, 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 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 a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like Manner chuse the 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.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Language changed by Amendment 12.

[4.] 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.

[5.] No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible 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.

[6.] In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve 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.\*

[7.] 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.

[8.] Before he enters 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 Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.”

**Section 2. [1.]** 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 Offices, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

[2.] 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 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.

[3.] 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 at the End of their next Session.

**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; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene 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 and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

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\* Language changed by Amendments 20 and 25.

**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, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

### 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 Behavior, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

**Section 2. [1.]** The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, 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 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.†

**[2.]** 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, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

**[3.]** 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. [1.]** Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to 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 Act, or on Confession in open Court.

**[2.]** The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attained.

### 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. [1.]** The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

**[2.]** A Person charged 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

† Language changed by Amendment 11.

Authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

[3.] 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 from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due.\*

**Section 3. [1.]** 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 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.

[2.] 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 so construed as to Prejudice 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.

## Article V

**Section 1.** The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem 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 to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as 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 in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

## Article VI

**Section 1. [1.]** 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.

[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 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.

[3.] 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.

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\* Language changed by Amendment 13.

**Article VII**

**Section. 1.** The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

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 Independence of the United States of America the Twelfth.

In Witness whereof We have hereunto subscribed our Names,†

GEORGE WASHINGTON, President and deputy from Virginia	
DELAWARE George Read Gunning Bedford, Jr. John Dickinson Richard Bassett Jacob Broom	NEW HAMPSHIRE John Langdon Nicholas Gilman
MARYLAND James McHenry Dan of St. Thomas Jenifer Daniel Carroll	MASSACHUSETTS Nathaniel Gorham Rufus King
VIRGINIA John Blair James Madison, Jr.	CONNECTICUT William Samuel Johnson Roger Sherman
NORTH CAROLINA William Blount Richard Dobbs Spaight Hugh Williamson	NEW YORK Alexander Hamilton
SOUTH CAROLINA J. Rutledge Charles Cotesworth Pinckney Charles Pinckney Pierce Butler	NEW JERSEY William Livingston David Brearley William Patterson Jonathan Dayton
GEORGIA William Few Abraham Baldwin	PENNSYLVANIA Benjamin Franklin Thomas Mifflin Robert Morris George Clymer Thomas FitzSimons Jared Ingersoll James Wilson Gouv. Morris

ATTEST:  
 William Jackson *Secretary*

† The Constitution was declared in effect on the first Wednesday in March, 1789.

# Amendments to the Constitution of the United States\*

## Preamble

THE Conventions of a number of the States, having at the time of their adopting the Constitution, expressed a desire, in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers, that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added: And as extending the ground of public confidence in the Government, will best ensure the beneficent ends of its institution.

RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, two thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following Articles be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, as Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, all or any of which Articles, when ratified by three fourths of the said Legislatures, to be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of the said Constitution; viz.:

ARTICLES in addition to, and Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant to the fifth Article of the original Constitution.

## Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. (Ratified on December 15, 1791.)

## Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed. (Ratified on December 15, 1791.)

## Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law. (Ratified on December 15, 1791.)

## Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particu-

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\* The first ten amendments, known as the Bill of Rights, were proposed by Congress on September 25, 1789 and declared in force on December 15, 1791.

larly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized. (Ratified on December 15, 1791.)

### **Amendment V**

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself; nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation. (Ratified on December 15, 1791.)

### **Amendment VI**

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense. (Ratified on December 15, 1791.)

### **Amendment VII**

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law. (Ratified on December 15, 1791.)

### **Amendment VIII**

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted. (Ratified on December 15, 1791.)

### **Amendment IX**

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people. (Ratified on December 15, 1791.)

### **Amendment X**

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people. (Ratified on December 15, 1791.)

### Amendment XI

The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by Citizens of another State, or by Citizens or Subjects of any Foreign State. (Ratified on February 7, 1795.)

### Amendment XII

The Electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists 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 for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing 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. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President.\*—The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States. (Ratified on June 15, 1804.)

### Amendment XIII

**Section 1.** Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

**Section 2.** Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (Ratified on December 6, 1865.)

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\* Language changed by Amendment 20.

## Amendment XIV

**Section 1.** All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; 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.

**Section 2.** Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age<sup>†</sup>, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

**Section 3.** No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

**Section 4.** The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slaves; but all such debts, obligations, and claims shall be held illegal and void.

**Section 5.** The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article. (Ratified on July 9, 1868.)

## Amendment XV

**Section 1.** The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

**Section 2.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (Ratified on February 3, 1870.)

<sup>†</sup> Language changed by Amendments 19 and 26.

### **Amendment XVI**

**Section 1.** The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration. (Ratified on February 3, 1913.)

### **Amendment XVII**

**Section 1.** The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures.

When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of such State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, That the legislature of any State may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution. (Ratified on April 8, 1913.)

### **Amendment XVIII**

**Section 1.** After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

**Section 2.** The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

**Section 3.** This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress. (Ratified on January 16, 1919. This amendment was repealed by Amendment XXI on December 5, 1933.)

### **Amendment XIX**

**Section 1.** The right of the citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

**Section 2.** Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (Ratified on August 18, 1920.)

### **Amendment XX**

**Section 1.** The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

**Section 2.** The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

**Section 3.** If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be elected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

**Section 4.** The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

**Section 5.** Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

**Section 6.** This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission. (Ratified on January 23, 1933.)

## Amendment XXI

**Section 1.** The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

**Section 2.** The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

**Section 3.** This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress. (Ratified on December 5, 1933.)

## Amendment XXII

**Section 1.** No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

**Section 2.** This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the sev-

eral States within seven years from the date of its submission to the States by the Congress. (Ratified on February 27, 1951.)

### **Amendment XXIII**

**Section 1.** The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the States, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a State; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

**Section 2.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (Ratified on March 29, 1961.)

### **Amendment XXIV**

**Section 1.** The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

**Section 2.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (Ratified on January 23, 1964.)

### **Amendment XXV**

**Section 1.** In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

**Section 2.** Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

**Section 3.** Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

**Section 4.** Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that no inability exists, he shall resume the powers and duties of his office unless the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit within

four days to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the Congress, within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if Congress is not in session, within twenty-one days after Congress is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of both Houses that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of his office. (Ratified on February 10, 1967.)

### **Amendment XXVI**

**Section 1.** The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

**Section 2.** The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (Ratified on July 1, 1971.)

### **Amendment XXVII**

**Section 1.** No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened. (Ratified on May 7, 1992.)