

## PREAMBLE

“We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America — a Constitutional Republic, founded on the principles of democracy, to preserve the equal dignity of every person, to guard the rights of the people from encroachment, and to bind this government forever to the service of the governed.”

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## ARTICLE I — SOVEREIGNTY OF THE PEOPLE

**Section 1 — The Source of Authority** All political power in the United States is inherent in the People. Government is an instrument of the People’s will and exists solely by their consent. The People are the ultimate sovereigns of this nation, delegating limited powers to their elected and appointed agents, who serve only as trustees bound by oath and law.

**Section 2 — The Inherent Rights of the People** The rights set forth in this Constitution are not granted by the government; they are inherent to the People and shall not be infringed, abridged, or denied. Enumeration of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the People.

**Section 3 — Fundamental Freedoms** (a) The freedoms of thought, conscience, belief, speech, press, and petition, and the rights of the People peaceably to assemble, to associate, and to seek redress of grievances shall not be abridged. (b) The right of the People to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed; however, Congress and the several States may, by general law, establish reasonable restrictions on weapon types, rates of fire, and magazine or ammunition capacity for civilian ownership, provided that such restrictions do not impair the right of law-abiding citizens to possess firearms for self-defense, lawful hunting, and recognized sports. (c) The quartering of soldiers in any house shall not occur in time of peace without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war except in a manner prescribed by law. (d) Petition and Grievance Redress: Citizens shall have the unabridged right to petition their government for redress of grievances, and to receive a timely and public response.

**Section 4 — Security of the Person** (a) The People shall be secure in their persons, homes, papers, effects, and all forms of private communication against unreasonable searches and seizures. Warrants shall issue only upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and shall particularly describe the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized. (b) 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. (c) No person shall be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb for the same offense, nor compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against themselves, nor deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation. (d) Due

process shall be uniform throughout the United States. States may provide additional protections but may not diminish the minimum standard guaranteed by this Constitution.

**Section 5 — Rights of the Accused and Convicted** (a) 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 was alleged to have been committed, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against them; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in their favor; and to have the assistance of counsel for their defense. (b) Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishments inflicted.

**Section 6 — Citizenship and Equal Protection** (a) Citizenship of the United States shall be conferred upon persons born to at least one United States citizen parent, whether such birth occurs inside or outside the United States; upon persons lawfully naturalized in accordance with this Constitution and laws passed pursuant to it; and upon the children born within the United States to lawful permanent residents who have formally declared their intent to seek citizenship. (b) No State shall make or enforce any law which abridges 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 any person equal protection of the laws. (c) Equal protection of the laws is guaranteed uniformly throughout the United States. States may extend additional protections, but none may narrow the protections guaranteed herein.

**Section 7 — Prohibitions Against Servitude** Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as restitution for a crime where the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to its jurisdiction. Restitution may include labor or service intended to repair harm to victims or the community and may be assigned during incarceration or as an alternative to incarceration, but shall never be imposed for mere punishment or humiliation.

**Section 8 — The Right to Vote** (a) 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, previous condition of servitude, sex, disability, age of eighteen years or older, or failure to pay any tax. (b) Congress shall have the power to legislate reasonable restrictions on voting for those convicted of serious crimes only during their term of punishment. Upon full completion of a sentence — including incarceration, probation, or supervised release — the right to vote shall be restored automatically at the federal level. No State may impose further voting restrictions once that sentence is fully served. (c) Congress shall have the power to enforce this section by appropriate legislation.

**Section 9 — Reserved Powers** The powers not expressly granted to the United States by this Constitution, nor granted to the States herein, are reserved to the People as the ultimate sovereigns.

**Section 10 — People's Oversight and Accountability** (a) The People retain the power to petition for the recall of any elected official or officer of the United States who has demonstrably violated their constitutional oath. (b) Grounds for recall must be based on specific and articulable acts or omissions which, if proven true, would constitute knowing and willful violation of the

Constitution or of the official's sworn oath, and which could be proven beyond a reasonable doubt before a jury. (c) A recall petition shall be submitted to an Independent Constitutional Review Panel, composed of retired federal judges and senior legal scholars, for certification that the allegations meet this evidentiary threshold before signature gathering or any public vote may proceed. (d) Any official removed by recall shall, upon removal, be deemed indicted for the acts forming the basis of the recall and shall be subject to mandatory investigation and prosecution by the United States Attorney General and the Department of Justice. (e) The People retain the right to initiate referenda or propose constitutional amendments through nationally recognized petition mechanisms, provided that: (i) All proposed measures shall first be reviewed by the Independent Constitutional Review Panel for constitutionality; (ii) Petition thresholds shall be sufficiently high to ensure that only proposals with substantial support within the electorate of the jurisdiction involved may proceed. For any proposal seeking action regarding a member of the Senate, the petition threshold must be met by eligible voters on a statewide basis; for a member of the House of Representatives, the threshold must be met by eligible voters within that member's congressional district; and for the President or Vice President, the threshold must be met by eligible voters on a nationwide basis; and (iii) No referendum or amendment may abridge the inherent rights enumerated in this Constitution. (f) All officials of the United States, upon entering office, shall swear or affirm their fidelity to this Constitution and to the sovereignty of the People, and shall be subject to removal and legal accountability for breach of that oath. (g) **Insurrection and Officeholding.** No person shall hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, who, having previously taken an oath to support this Constitution, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to its enemies.

**Section 11 — Additional Inherent Rights of the People** (a) Right to Privacy — The People have an inherent right to privacy in their persons, homes, papers, communications, effects, and personal data, which shall not be infringed except by due process of law. (b) Right to Bodily Autonomy and Integrity — Every person has the right to bodily autonomy and integrity; no law shall permit the involuntary use of a person's body or biological material without consent, except as lawfully ordered through due process. (c) Freedom of Movement — Every citizen shall have the right to freely travel and relocate between and among the several States and Territories, subject only to restrictions imposed by due process of law. (d) Explicit Right to Vote — The right of citizens of the United States to vote in all federal, state, and local elections shall not be abridged, denied, or diluted, and shall be guaranteed equally. Persons who are incarcerated or otherwise under penalty from a conviction may be restricted from voting in state and local elections during the term of their sentence. Persons who have been adjudicated incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction may likewise have their voting rights suspended. Any individual not adjudicated incompetent, or having completed any imposed sentence, shall be guaranteed the right to vote equally in all federal, state, and local elections. (e) Right to Government Transparency — The People have the right to know what their government is doing. All laws, rules, budgets, and official acts shall be published and accessible, except for information narrowly withheld to protect national security and public safety. (f) Jury Trial in Civil Cases — In suits at common law where the value in controversy exceeds an amount to be determined by law, 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, except according to the rules of common law. (g) Excessive Punishments — The protections against excessive bail, excessive fines, and cruel or unusual punishments provided in Article I, Section 5(b) shall apply to all persons under the

jurisdiction of the United States.

## **Section 12 — Foreign Gifts and Emoluments**

No person holding any office of profit or trust under the United States shall accept any present or emolument from any source. No person holding any office of profit or trust under the United States shall accept from any King, foreign State, or representative thereof, any title of any kind whatever. Any present, gift, or emolument received by virtue of or during the individual's service in any office of profit or trust under the United States shall become the property of the United States and shall not accrue to the personal benefit of the recipient.

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## **ARTICLE II — THE LEGISLATURE**

**Section 1 — Establishment and Structure** (a) Bicameral Legislature. There is hereby established a Legislature of the United States, composed of two chambers: a House of Representatives and a Senate. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in this Legislature of the United States. (b) Delegated Authority. The Legislature is not sovereign; it exercises only the powers delegated to it by the People under this Constitution. It is at all times subject to the sovereignty of the People, as declared in Article I. (c) Purpose and Representation. Recognizing that the People cannot be polled on every issue, the People — sovereign holders of authority — select Representatives and Senators to learn, deliberate, and legislate on their behalf, polling constituencies to inform decision making. (d) Core Functions. The Legislature shall have the authority to enact laws, levy taxes, provide for the common defense and general welfare, regulate commerce, oversee the Executive and Judicial branches, and perform such other duties as are delegated by this Constitution. It shall further exercise all legislative powers enumerated herein, including but not limited to: the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises; to pay debts; to borrow money on the credit of the United States; to regulate commerce with foreign nations, among the several States, and with Indigenous nations; to establish uniform rules of naturalization and laws on bankruptcy; to coin money and regulate its value; to fix standards of weights and measures; to provide for punishment of counterfeiting; to establish post offices and post roads; to promote the progress of science and the arts; to constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court; to define and punish piracy and offences against the law of nations; to declare war; to raise and support armies (with appropriations limited to two years); to provide and maintain a navy; to make rules for the government and regulation of the armed forces; to call forth, organize, arm, and discipline the militia; and 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. (e) **Insurrection and Officeholding.** No person shall hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, who, having previously taken an oath to support this Constitution, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to its enemies; but Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House remove such disability.

**Section 2 — The House of Representatives** (a) Composition. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every two years by the People of the several States, apportioned among the States by population, as prescribed by law consistent with this Constitution. Members shall have attained the age of twenty-five years, been seven years a citizen of the United States, and be an inhabitant of the State in which chosen. Representatives shall be apportioned among the States according to their respective numbers, as determined by a census to be taken every ten years in such manner as Congress shall direct. Each State shall have at least one Representative. When vacancies happen, the executive authority of the State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies. (b) State Delegation Voting. Each State's House delegation shall cast one vote for final passage of any bill, resolution, or motion. That vote shall be determined by a two-thirds vote of the members of that State's delegation. If a State's delegation fails to achieve a two-thirds internal vote for or against a measure, that State's delegation shall not cast a vote in favor of the measure. (c) Threshold for Passage in the House. No bill, resolution, or motion shall pass the House unless it receives: (1) a two-thirds vote of all members of the House; and (2) a two-thirds vote of all State delegations. (d) Special Measures Requiring Supermajority. Any bill, resolution, or motion involving taxation, the declaration of war, the ratification of a treaty, the confirmation of a Justice of the Supreme Court, or any constitutional amendment shall require a supermajority — three-fourths of members and three-fourths of State delegations. (e) Delegation Deadlocks. When a State delegation cannot meet the required two-thirds threshold, that delegation shall record no affirmative vote on the measure; this shall count against the total needed for passage. (f) Census Requirement. A census of the population shall be taken every ten years in such manner as Congress shall direct, and representation in the House shall be apportioned according to that census. (g) Officers. The House of Representatives shall choose its Speaker and other officers, and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

**Section 3 — The Senate** (a) Composition. The Senate shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen as prescribed by this Constitution and the laws enacted under it. Senators shall serve for six years, and each Senator shall have one vote. Senators must be at least thirty years of age, nine years a citizen of the United States, and an inhabitant of the State for which they are chosen. (b) Voting Threshold. All Senate actions — including passage of bills, confirmations, treaties, and resolutions — shall require a majority vote (two-thirds of Senators present and voting). (c) Supermajority Requirement for Critical Measures. Measures involving taxation, the declaration of war, the ratification of treaties, the confirmation of Supreme Court Justices, and any constitutional amendment shall require a supermajority vote (three-fourths of Senators present and voting). (d) Compelled Consideration. No bill, resolution, or nomination duly transmitted from the House shall remain unacted upon by the Senate beyond the following periods: Emergency or disaster relief: A vote must be held within five calendar days of receipt. Other matters: A vote must be held within ninety calendar days of receipt, unless otherwise specified in this Constitution. (e) Election of Senators. Senators shall be elected directly by the People of each State. (f) Senate Classes. Immediately after they shall be assembled, the Senators shall be divided into three classes so that one-third of the Senate shall be chosen every two years; vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the term to which the vacating Senator was elected. (g) Officers. The Vice President of the United States shall serve as President of the Senate but shall have no vote unless the Senate is equally divided. The Senate shall choose its other officers and a President pro tempore to serve in the Vice President's absence. (h) Impeachment Trials.

The Senate shall have the sole power to try impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, Senators shall be on oath or affirmation. Conviction shall require the concurrence of two-thirds of the Senators present.

**Section 4 — Compensation and Restrictions** (a) No law varying the compensation for the services of Senators and Representatives shall take effect until after all members then serving shall have stood for election at least once, retired, died, or been removed from office before any such change becomes effective. (b) Senators and Representatives shall receive compensation for their services to be ascertained by law and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. During their attendance at the session of their respective Houses, they shall be privileged from arrest (except for treason, felony, or breach of the peace), and for any speech or debate in either House they shall not be questioned in any other place. (c) No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which 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 5 — Regulation of Elections for Senators and Representatives** (a) The times, places, and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives shall be prescribed by the legislatures of the several States, subject to the restrictions of this Constitution. However, no such regulations shall permit partisan political considerations to determine or distort district boundaries. (b) Congressional districts shall be drawn by independent, nonpartisan commissions in each State, under strict, algorithmic requirements to prevent partisan manipulation and ensure geographic neutrality. (c) Congress may by law enforce these principles and prescribe national standards for redistricting, including penalties for gerrymandering and malapportionment. No act of Congress, nor any executive directive, shall authorize, instruct, or incentivize any State to redraw districts for partisan advantage. (d) The Congress shall assemble at least once every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the third day of January unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

**Section 6 — Ethics, Oaths, and Enforcement** (a) Oath of Office. All members of the Legislature shall, before entering upon the duties of their office, take the following oath: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States; that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as a trustee of the People, who are the sovereigns of this nation; and that I will uphold the sovereignty of the People above all other interests.” This oath shall be binding in law and violation of it shall constitute grounds for recall as provided in Article I, Section 10, and for censure or expulsion as provided herein. (b) Blind Trust Requirement. All members of the Legislature shall, before assuming office, place all business interests, securities, real estate holdings other than primary residence, and other personal assets into a qualified blind trust, with full public filing and no communication with trustees during service. (c) Conflict of Interest and Transparency. Members may not participate in any legislative action that would directly enrich themselves or their immediate families, and all financial and campaign disclosures must be made quarterly and posted publicly. (d) Fundraising Restrictions. No member of the Legislature shall solicit or accept campaign contributions during any active legislative session of their chamber, except during recess or within the 180 days before an election. (e) Internal Discipline. Each chamber may discipline its

members for misconduct. Censure or expulsion shall require a supermajority (three-fourths of that chamber). Grounds include violation of oath, blind trust breaches, willful nondisclosure, or conduct bringing disrepute.

**Section 7 — Oversight and Impeachment** (a) Oversight Authority. The Legislature shall have the power to conduct investigations, hold hearings, issue subpoenas, and compel testimony and documents as necessary to carry out its constitutional duties. (b) Guardrails on Investigatory Powers. No subpoenas or inquiries may issue except by a supermajority of the relevant committee; no individual legislator may act alone. (c) Impeachment by the House. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment. Articles of impeachment require a two-thirds vote of all House members and two-thirds of State delegations. (d) Trial by the Senate. The Senate shall have the sole power to try impeachments; conviction requires two-thirds of Senators present. (e) Judgment and Consequences. Judgment extends only to removal and disqualification but allows for criminal prosecution thereafter. (f) Safeguards for Accountability. Any committee finding evidence of criminal conduct shall immediately transmit such evidence to the Department of Justice; Congress shall not obstruct prosecution.

**Section 8 — Public Transparency** All legislative deliberations and votes shall be recorded and made public, with only narrow, supermajority-approved exceptions for matters of national security. All meetings with lobbyists shall be documented and disclosed.

**Section 9 — Emergency Powers and Continuity** Congress may, by law, delegate limited emergency powers to the Executive, with strict limits, automatic expiration after thirty days unless renewed, and full reporting. Emergency powers may not suspend constitutional rights, cancel elections, or impose penalties beyond existing law. Congress must meet virtually or at a secure location if prevented from assembling, and all constitutional voting and quorum rules remain in effect.

**Section 10 — Taxation Authority** (a) Congress shall have power to levy income taxes on persons and corporations, subject to uniform rules. Corporate taxes shall phase out within ten years, with transparency in all taxation. (b) No excise or indirect tax may be imposed except temporarily for public health or safety; any such tax expires within five years unless renewed by three-fifths of each House.

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## **ARTICLE III — THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

**Section 1 — Vesting of Executive Authority; Election; Term; Qualifications; Oath** (a) Vesting of Authority. The executive authority of the United States shall be vested in a President of the United States of America, elected by the People for a term of four years, serving as the singular executive officer responsible for the faithful execution of the laws of this Constitution. (b) **Election of President and Vice President.** The President and Vice President shall be chosen for the same four-year term by electors directly selected by the People. Each congressional district shall choose one elector by popular vote within that district. The two additional electors

corresponding to each State's Senate seats shall be chosen by the statewide popular vote. No State may apportion electors by any method other than the direct vote of the People within each congressional district and in the State at large.

**(c) Insurrection and Officeholding.** No person shall hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, who, having previously taken an oath to support this Constitution, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to its enemies; but Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House remove such disability.

**(d) Duties and Meeting of Electors.** The electors chosen by the People shall meet within their respective States at such places as the legislature of each State shall by law provide. They shall cast distinct ballots for President and Vice President and certify their votes. Each State shall count and publicly certify the result of every congressional district and the statewide vote, and shall ensure that the elector for each district and the two statewide electors are those chosen by the People based on those certified results. **Electors shall cast their ballots for the candidates for President and Vice President for whom they were chosen, and no law shall permit an elector to substitute their personal preference for the result of the People's vote.**

**(e) Transmission and Counting of Electoral Votes.** Each State's certified electoral votes shall be sealed and transmitted to the Seat of Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. On the day prescribed by law, the President of the Senate shall open all certificates in the presence of both Houses of Congress, and the votes shall then be counted.

Procedures for resolving ties or failures to achieve a majority shall be prescribed by law, consistent with this Constitution. (e) Time of Election. The Congress shall determine the day for the selection of electors, and the day on which they shall cast their votes; that day shall be uniform throughout the United States. (f) Qualifications for Office. No person except a natural born Citizen of the United States shall be eligible to the Office of President; nor shall any person be eligible who has not attained the age of thirty-five years and been at least fourteen years a resident within the United States. (g) Succession. In the event of removal, death, resignation, or inability of the President to discharge the powers and duties of the office, those powers and duties shall devolve upon the Vice President. The Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability of both the President and Vice President, declaring what officer shall then act as President until the disability is removed or a President is duly elected. (h) Compensation. The President shall, at stated times, receive compensation for services, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which the President has been elected. No additional payment or benefit shall be accepted from the United States or any State during such period. (i) Oath of Office. Before entering on the execution of the office, the President shall take the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will, on behalf of the People of the United States, who stand sovereign over the government, 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." (j) Presidential Term Limits. No person shall be elected to the office of 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 shall be elected to the office of President more than once. (k)



Commencement of Terms. The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

**Section 2 — Powers and Appointments** (a) Commander in Chief and Senior Civilian Officers. The President, as Senior Civilian Officer of the United States, 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. The Vice President, as the Deputy Senior Civilian Officer of the Executive Branch, is empowered by this Constitution to ascend to the Presidency when that office is vacated, or in time of need to stand in for the President in an acting capacity, as elsewhere herein described. The President may require the written opinion of the principal officer of each executive department upon any subject relating to the duties of their offices and shall have the power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment. (b) Treaties and Advice and Consent. The President shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur. (c) Nominations and Appointments. The President 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 otherwise provided for by this Constitution and which shall be established by law. (d) Appointment of Inferior Officers. 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. (e) Recess Appointments. The President shall have power to fill vacancies that may happen during a recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session. Recess appointments may be made only when the Senate is in recess for a continuous period of at least ten calendar days. (f) Vice President's Senate Role. The Vice President shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote unless the Senate is equally divided.

**Section 3 — Disability, Succession, and Recovery** (a) Presidential Disability. Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of office, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President until the President transmits a written declaration to the contrary. (b) Involuntary Declaration. Whenever the Vice President and a majority of the principal officers of the executive departments transmit a written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties as Acting President. (c) Contest and Resolution. If the President contests such a declaration, Congress shall decide the issue, convening within 48 hours if not in session. A two-thirds vote of both Houses shall determine that the President is unable; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of office. (d) Successor Beyond VP. In the event of removal, death, resignation, or inability of both the President and Vice President, Congress shall by law declare what officer shall act as President until the disability is removed or a President shall be elected.

**Section 4 — Electoral Votes for the District of Columbia** The District constituting the Seat of Government of the United States shall appoint, in such manner as Congress may direct, a number of electors for President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and

Representatives it would be entitled to if it were a State, but no more than the least populous State.

**Section 5 — Duties and Legislative Engagement** (a) State of the Union and Legislative Recommendations. The President shall, from time to time, give to the Congress information on the state of the union and recommend to their consideration such measures as the President shall judge necessary and expedient to advance the interests of the Nation and the People. (b) Convening and Adjournment of Congress. The President may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses of Congress or either of them. In the event of disagreement between the Houses with respect to the time of adjournment, the President may adjourn them to such time as the President deems proper. (c) Reception of Foreign Representatives. The President shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers and ensure that the Nation's diplomatic relations are maintained in a manner consistent with the Constitution and the laws of the United States. (d) Execution of the Laws. The President shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and shall ensure that the obligations of this Constitution are upheld in all matters of administration. (e) Commissioning Officers. The President shall commission all officers of the United States as provided by law and under the authority of this Constitution.

**Section 6 — Impeachment and Removal** (a) Grounds for Impeachment. The President, the Vice President, and all civil officers of the United States shall be subject to removal from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, obstruction of justice, obstruction of Congress, obstruction of government functions, or abuses of public trust constituting high crimes and misdemeanors. (b) Effect of Impeachment. Judgment in cases of impeachment shall extend no further than removal from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States; except that in cases of impeachment that allege conduct constituting a violation of the laws of the United States, the impeachment shall operate as an indictment for those offenses. Upon conviction by the Senate, the Department of Justice shall file charges forthwith, and the record of the impeachment proceedings shall be admissible as evidence for both prosecution and defense.

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## ARTICLE IV — THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

**Section 1 — Vesting of Judicial Power; Structure; Tenure; Ethics** (a) Vesting of Judicial Authority. The judicial authority of the United States shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as Circuit Courts of Appeal and Circuit Trial Courts that the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. (b) Composition and Tenure. The Justices of the Supreme Court and the judges of the Circuit Courts of Appeal and Circuit Trial Courts shall hold their offices as follows: (i) Supreme Court Justices shall hold their offices for a single term of twenty-six years. Each seat on the Supreme Court shall be tied to its circuit assignment, and the seats shall be scheduled so that one seat becomes vacant every two years, ensuring regular and orderly renewal of the Court. Any Justice appointed to fill a vacancy caused by death, disability, resignation, or removal shall serve only for the remainder of the unexpired term of that seat, and the established rotation shall remain unchanged. (ii) Judges of the Circuit Courts of Appeal shall hold their offices for a single term of twenty-four years, divided into three rotation blocks of

substantially equal size, one block expiring every eight years. (iii) Judges of the Circuit Trial Courts shall hold their offices for a single term of twenty-four years, similarly divided into three rotation blocks offset by four years from appellate rotations to avoid simultaneous turnover. (iv) Judges appointed to fill vacancies shall serve only for the remainder of the unexpired term to which they are appointed, preserving the rotation schedule. (v) No single President may, by reason of the rotation schedule alone, appoint more than one-third of the appellate or trial judges of any circuit during a single four-year term. (c) Rules of Professional Responsibility. Upon adoption of this Constitution, all members of the federal judiciary — including Justices, judges, magistrates, clerks, and employees — shall be bound by the Code of Conduct for United States Judges as in effect on January 1, 2025, subject to amendment only by a three-fourths vote of the Supreme Court with the advice and consent of the Senate. (d) Composition of the Supreme Court and Assignment to Circuits. There shall be one Justice of the Supreme Court for each federal judicial circuit, including the eleven numbered Circuits, the District of Columbia Circuit, and the Federal Circuit. The Justice assigned to the Federal Circuit shall be designated Chief Justice of the United States. Each Justice shall be permanently assigned to the circuit for which they are appointed. (e) Transitional Seating and Rotation. Upon adoption of this Constitution, the Supreme Court shall be newly constituted from senior appellate judges, and staggered starter terms shall be assigned (8, 12, and 16 years) to create the permanent rotation schedule thereafter.

**Section 2 — Jurisdiction of the Courts** (a) Scope of Judicial Power. 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 under their authority; to all cases affecting ambassadors, 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. (b) Original and Appellate Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction in all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls, and in those in which a State shall be a party. In all other cases mentioned above, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, subject to such regulations as Congress shall make. (c) Standing and Case Requirements. Federal courts shall hear and decide only actual cases and controversies. Standing to bring an action shall require a direct, concrete, and particularized injury or violation of a specific legal right held by the party bringing the case. Generalized grievances shall not confer standing, except where Congress expressly authorizes citizen suits to enforce constitutional or statutory obligations. (d) Trial by Jury. The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury. Such trials shall be held in the State where the said crimes have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the trial shall be held at such place or places as Congress may by law direct. (e) Judicial Exceptions and Emergency Powers. Congress may by law make exceptions and establish regulations for the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and the lower federal courts. No emergency or expedited order issued by any federal court shall exceed the court's jurisdiction, suspend or nullify any right secured by this Constitution absent explicit statutory authority, or remain in effect beyond thirty days unless renewed after notice, hearing, and written findings of necessity. (f) Jurisdiction of Circuit Courts of Appeal and Trial Courts. Circuit Trial Courts shall have original jurisdiction over all cases arising under this Constitution, laws, and treaties, except as otherwise provided by law. Circuit

Courts of Appeal shall have appellate jurisdiction over final decisions of Circuit Trial Courts and certain interlocutory orders as authorized by law. (g) Specialized Federal Courts. Congress may by law establish specialized federal courts with limited jurisdiction — including tax, bankruptcy, and claims courts — provided they remain subject to the structure, oversight, and rules of this Constitution. (h) Scope of Injunctions on Constitutional Questions. When any federal court issues an injunction based on an alleged constitutional violation, such injunction shall apply equally to all persons similarly situated throughout the United States, unless explicitly limited by statute or a higher court.

**Section 3 — Judicial Conduct, Discipline, and Removal** (a) Standards of Conduct. All members of the federal judiciary shall be held to the highest standards of professional conduct, impartiality, and integrity. Violations of the judicial and ethical rules of professional responsibility shall constitute grounds for discipline. (b) Oversight and Enforcement. A Judicial Oversight Commission shall be established by law, composed of members appointed equally by the House, the Senate, and the Supreme Court, to investigate allegations of judicial misconduct and recommend discipline. (c) Discipline Short of Removal. Judges and Justices may be reprimanded, censured, or suspended for misconduct by the Judicial Oversight Commission. All such actions shall be public and published with findings of fact. (d) Removal from Office. Judges and Justices may be removed only by impeachment by the House and conviction by the Senate, for treason, bribery, obstruction of justice, abuses of public trust constituting high crimes and misdemeanors, or egregious ethical violations. (e) Criminal and Civil Liability. Judges and Justices shall not be immune from criminal or civil liability for acts committed outside the lawful scope of their judicial duties. (f) Transparency and Public Confidence. All findings of the Judicial Oversight Commission, all disciplinary measures, and all impeachment proceedings involving judges or Justices shall be conducted with public notice and published records, except where confidentiality is narrowly required to protect witnesses or ongoing proceedings.

**Section 4 — Administration, Compensation, and Residual Powers** (a) Judicial Compensation. Justices and judges shall receive compensation for their services, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office, nor shall any other payment or benefit from the United States or from any State be accepted by any Justice or judge during their service. (b) Court Administration. The Supreme Court shall have authority to adopt rules governing the internal administration of the federal judiciary, case management, and rules of practice and procedure, universally applicable unless exceptions are expressly authorized. (c) Staffing and Support. The judiciary may employ clerks, staff attorneys, court reporters, interpreters, marshals, and other personnel as necessary. All employees shall serve in nonpartisan capacities and comply with judicial codes of conduct. (d) Budgeting and Appropriations. The Supreme Court shall submit an annual budget for judicial operations to Congress. Congress shall provide sufficient funding and shall not use appropriations to influence judicial decisions. Any budget adjustments must rely on objective workload analyses applied consistently. (e) Public Access and Transparency. All opinions of the Supreme Court, Circuit Courts of Appeal, and Circuit Trial Courts shall be published and accessible to the public. Records of judicial proceedings shall be open to public inspection, except where limited by law to protect litigants' rights, proceeding integrity, or compelling security interests. (f) Continuing Authority. Any powers of the judiciary not specifically enumerated herein but necessary for its constitutional role remain vested in the

courts, provided they are exercised in a manner consistent with this Constitution and subject to regulation by law.

**Section 5 — Treason** (a) Definition of Treason. 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. (b) Punishment and Limitations. 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 attainted.

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## **ARTICLE V — STATES AND FEDERAL RELATIONS**

### **Section 1 — Full Faith, Credit, and Compacts**

(a) **Recognition of State Acts.** Full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other State.

(b) **Uniform Effect.** Congress may by general laws prescribe the manner in which such acts, records, and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof, provided that no such law shall diminish the sovereignty of the States over their own acts and records.

(c) **Interstate Compacts.** No State shall, without the consent of Congress, enter into any agreement or compact with another State or with a foreign power. Congress shall grant such consent only by law, and such consent shall stand unless the compact is adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to violate this Constitution or the laws of the United States. If a dispute arises over the compliance of a compact, Congress or any affected party may seek judicial review to enforce compliance or to declare the compact invalid, consistent with principles of contract law that require a lawful purpose for any binding agreement.

### **Section 2 — Rights and Privileges of Citizens**

(a) **Equality of Citizens.** The citizens of each State shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States.

(b) **Extradition.** A person charged in any State with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice and be found in another State, shall, upon demand of the executive authority of the State from which they fled, be delivered up to be removed to the State having jurisdiction of the crime.

(c) **Fugitive from Justice and Civil Process.** No person charged with any civil obligation in one State who relocates to another State shall thereby extinguish or evade such obligation; judgments lawfully rendered in one State shall be honored in every other State.

### **Section 3 — Admission of New States and Territories**

(a) **Admission of States.** 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.

(b) **Authority Over Territories and Federal Lands.** The Congress shall have power to 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.

(c) **Territorial Status and Pathways.** All territories of the United States shall be designated by law as either:

(i) *Transitional Territories* — remaining under Congressional administration only until admitted as States; or

(ii) *Permanent Territories* — which Congress may establish by law for compelling reasons stated in writing, where the people of the territory have expressed no desire for statehood.

Permanent territories shall be reviewed by Congress every twenty-five years, and Congress shall reaffirm or revise such designation by law. A permanent territory may at any time petition Congress for statehood or for rescission of its permanent territorial designation, and Congress may grant such petition by law. Congress shall not unilaterally revoke a permanent territorial designation without the territory's petition, ensuring that territorial status reflects the will of the people of that territory.

(d) **District of Columbia and Federal Seat of Government.** The District constituting the Seat of Government of the United States shall be treated as a permanent federal district. Its residents shall have the right to participate in national elections by appointing electors for President and Vice President in a number equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives it would be entitled to if it were a State, and shall have such representation in Congress as provided by law.

#### **Section 4 — Guarantee of Government and Protection**

(a) **Guarantee Clause.** The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a republican form of government, defined for purposes of this Constitution as a system providing for free and fair elections at regular intervals, equal suffrage for citizens, separation of powers within the State, and no hereditary or permanent offices of state power.

(b) **Protection of States.** The United States shall protect each State against invasion; and, on application of the legislature of the State, or of the executive when the legislature cannot be convened, against domestic violence. Federal forces may always be deployed to defend federal property, facilities, and personnel within a State. But no deployment of federalized militia or National Guard shall extend generally throughout the territory of a State to quell domestic violence absent a formal request from that State's legislature or governor.

#### **Section 5 — Restrictions on State Powers**

(a) 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.

(b) No State shall, without the consent of 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 Congress.

(c) 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.

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## ARTICLE VI — AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

### Section 1 — Proposal of Amendments

(a) **Congressional Proposal.** Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by the Congress whenever two-thirds of both the House of Representatives and the Senate deem it necessary.

(b) **Convention Proposal.** Congress shall call a convention for proposing amendments upon the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several States. The scope of such a convention shall be limited to the subjects stated in the applications, unless the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States expand the scope by subsequent application. Any amendment proposed by such a convention must receive the approval of three-fourths of the convention's delegates before being submitted to the States for ratification.

(c) **Citizen-Initiated Proposal.** Amendments to this Constitution may also be proposed by the citizens of the United States. When verified petitions bearing the signatures of not less than ten percent of the total votes cast in the most recent presidential election in each of three-fifths of the States are filed with those States, each such State shall place the proposed amendment on the ballot for the next general election. Once that threshold is met, all States shall place the proposed amendment on their next general election ballot. The amendment shall become valid as part of this Constitution when approved by a majority of voters in three-fourths of the States. The legislatures of the several States shall have no role in the citizen-initiated amendment process.

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### Section 2 — Ratification of Amendments

(a) **Ratification by States.** Amendments proposed by Congress or by convention shall become valid 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 Congress may specify, provided that Congress shall direct a single method of ratification for each proposed amendment.

(b) **Ratification by Citizens.** Amendments proposed under Clause (c) of Section 1 shall become valid as part of this Constitution when approved by a majority of the citizens voting on the measure in three-fourths of the States.

(c) **Effective Date of Amendments.** Every amendment ratified under this Article shall specify the date upon which it shall take effect, which may be immediate upon ratification or a later date necessary to allow reasonable time for compliance. No amendment shall take effect without such specification.

(d) **Publication of Ratification.** Upon ratification by the required number of States or by citizen vote under this Article, the Archivist of the United States shall certify the amendment and publish it as part of this Constitution.

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### **Section 3 — Restrictions on Amendments**

(a) **Equal Representation of States in the Senate.** No State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate by amendment.

(b) **Entrenched Rights and Processes.** No amendment shall abridge the inherent rights guaranteed by this Constitution or alter the amendment process itself except by an amendment meeting the same requirements for proposal and ratification provided herein.

(c) **Temporal Restrictions.** Any amendment imposing new qualifications for voting or holding office shall apply only prospectively and shall not disqualify any citizen retroactively.

(d) **Continuity of Constitutional Obligations.** Ratification of an amendment shall not suspend or nullify obligations, debts, or judicial determinations lawfully incurred under this Constitution unless the amendment explicitly provides for such relief.

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## **ARTICLE VII — LEGAL STATUS AND RATIFICATION OF THIS CONSTITUTION**

### **Section 1 — Supremacy of This Constitution**

(a) **Constitutional Supremacy.** This Constitution, and the laws of the United States enacted in pursuance of it, 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, anything in the constitutions or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.

(b) **Limits on Supremacy.** No law or treaty shall gain supremacy under this Article unless it is enacted or ratified in a manner consistent with this Constitution, and no assertion of supremacy shall be used to enlarge federal authority beyond the powers granted herein.

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### **Section 2 — Oaths and Affirmations**

(a) **Federal Oath.** All Senators and Representatives, members of State legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers of the United States and of the several States shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support this Constitution.

(b) **No Religious Test.** No religious test shall ever be required as a qualification for any office or public trust under the United States.



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### **Section 3 — Public Debt and Obligations**

(a) **Validity of Debt.** All debts and obligations of the United States, whether incurred before or after the adoption of this Constitution, shall be valid and shall not be questioned.

(b) **Limitation on New Debt.** Congress shall not incur debt except by approval of four-fifths of all members of both Houses of Congress and the consent of the Executive. Such approval shall be by recorded vote, with each member's vote entered publicly in the journal of their House. Any such debt must be authorized by law specifying, by line-item accounting, the amount to be borrowed and the precise purposes for which it is to be used. All debt incurred under this clause shall remain subject to repayment and ongoing public accountability.

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### **Section 4 — Continuity and Transition**

(a) **Continuity of Law.** Provided they are consistent with this Constitution, all laws, treaties, and judicial decisions in force at the adoption of this Constitution shall remain in effect unless and until altered or repealed by law.

(b) **Transitional Authority.** Congress shall have authority to enact laws necessary for the orderly transition from the former Constitution to this Constitution, provided that such laws do not contravene any provision herein.

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### **Section 5 — Residual Provisions and Dissolution of Conflicts**

(a) **Supersession of Conflicting Provisions.** Upon the ratification of this Constitution, the Constitution of the United States adopted in 1789, and all amendments thereto, shall be superseded to the extent of any conflict with this Constitution.

(b) **Preservation of Rights and Powers.** All individual rights recognized in the Constitution of 1789, and the rights of the several States, are reaffirmed under this Constitution except where explicitly altered by its provisions. Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to diminish or annul the inherent sovereignty of the people of the several States, nor the rights reserved to the States or the people.

(c) **Transparency of Transition.** The process by which this Constitution replaces the Constitution of 1789 shall be public and transparent. Congress shall maintain and publish a permanent record of all transitional actions, including the repeal or amendment of prior laws, the reconciliation of conflicting provisions, and the steps taken to ensure continuity of government and the protection of rights.

(d) **Interpretation in Harmony.** Wherever possible, provisions of this Constitution shall be interpreted in harmony with the principles of the Constitution of 1789 and its amendments, to

demonstrate continuity of the American constitutional tradition and to reaffirm that this Constitution is an evolution, not an abandonment, of that foundational charter.

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## **Section 6 — Ratification of This Constitution**

(a) **Method of Ratification.** This Constitution shall take effect and have legal force when ratified by conventions in two-thirds of the several States.

(b) **Effect of Ratification.** Ratification by a State shall bind that State and its people to the obligations and protections of this Constitution, and this Constitution shall be established among all States that ratify it.

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