

We the People

Article I

**The Constitution
of the United States
of America**

We the People

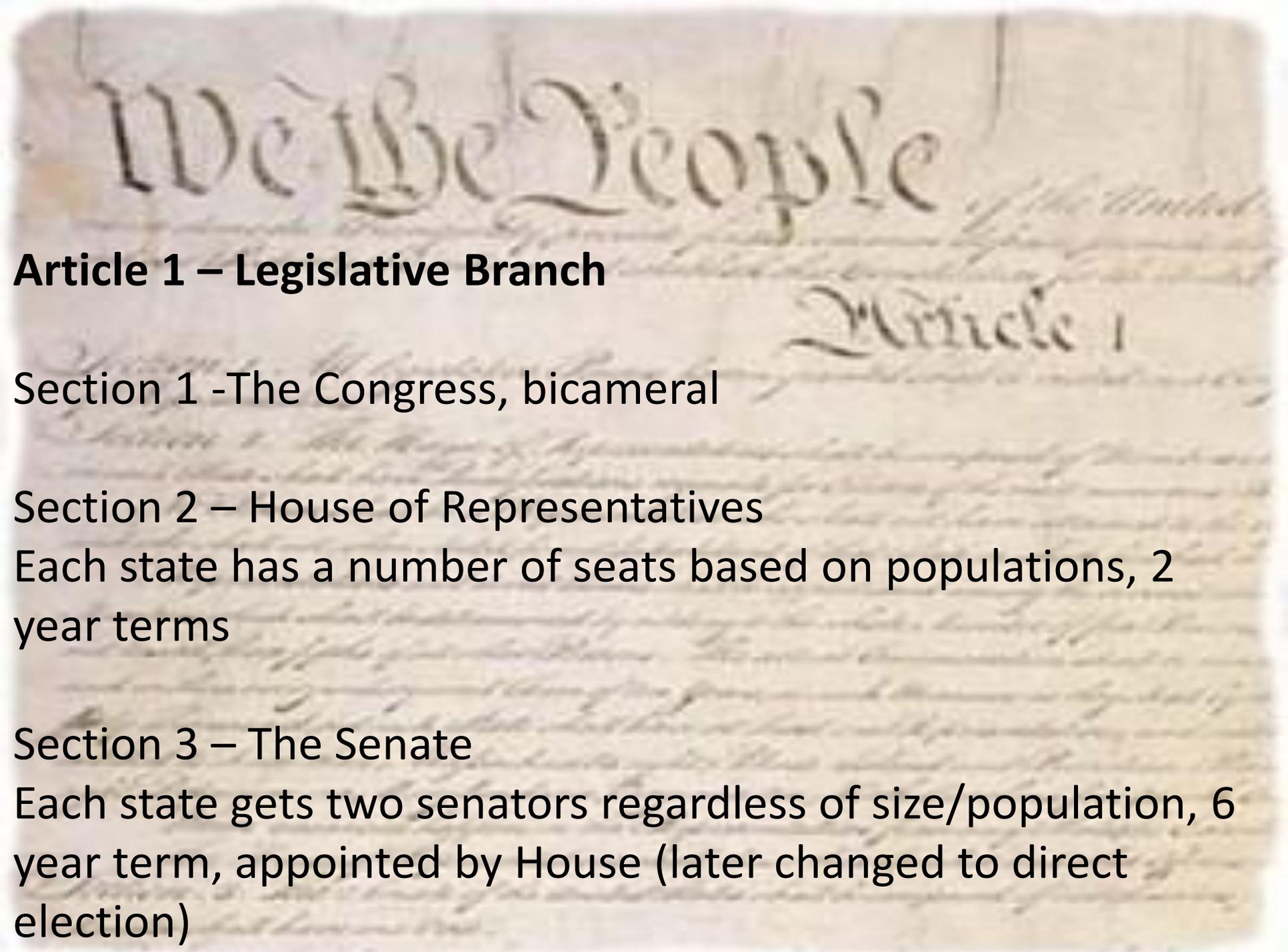
Article 1

Preamble

- not law just establishes the purpose

Watch School
House Rock's
We The
People... →





We the People

Article 1 – Legislative Branch

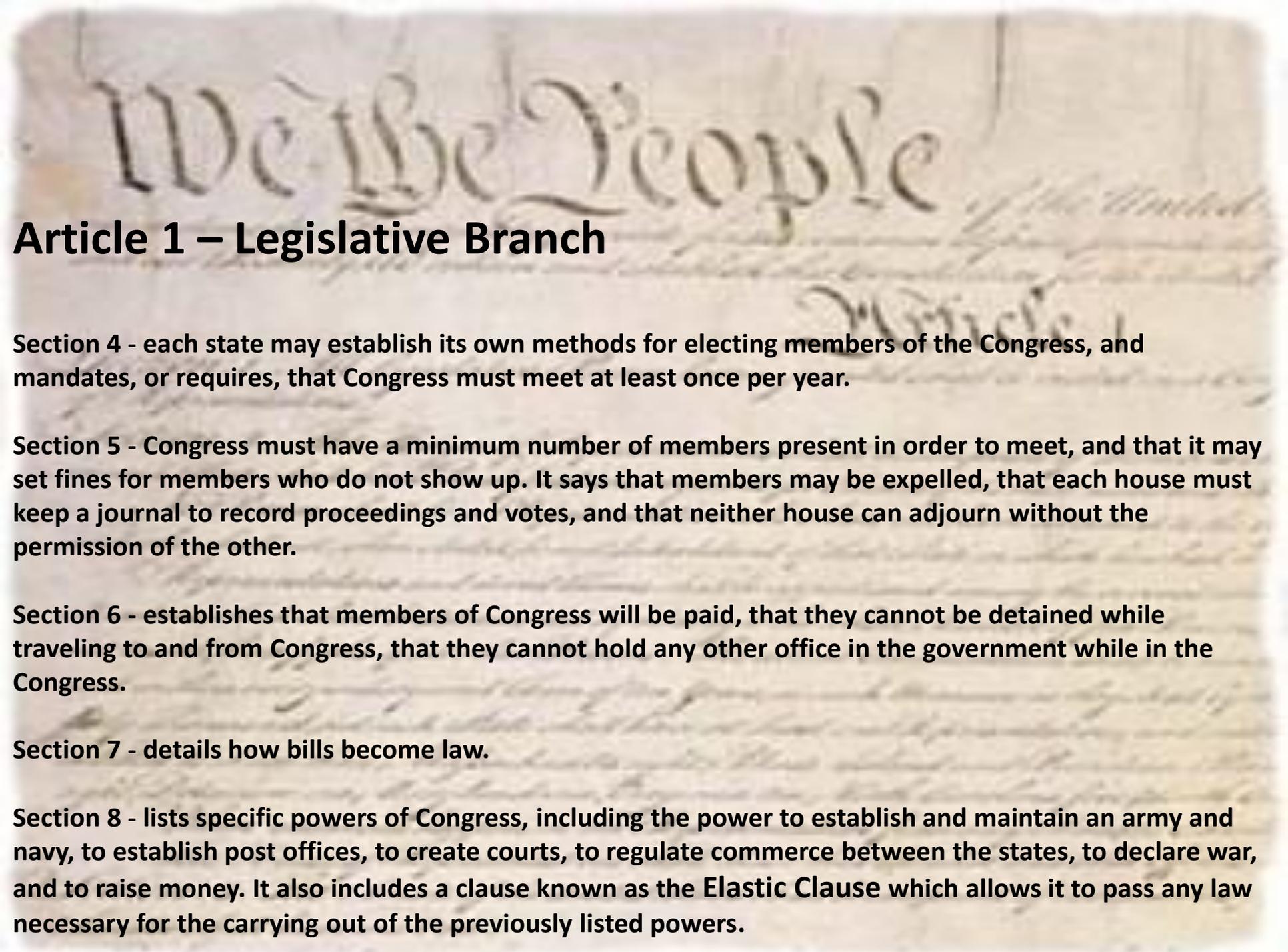
Section 1 -The Congress, bicameral

Section 2 – House of Representatives

Each state has a number of seats based on populations, 2 year terms

Section 3 – The Senate

Each state gets two senators regardless of size/population, 6 year term, appointed by House (later changed to direct election)



We the People

Article 1 – Legislative Branch

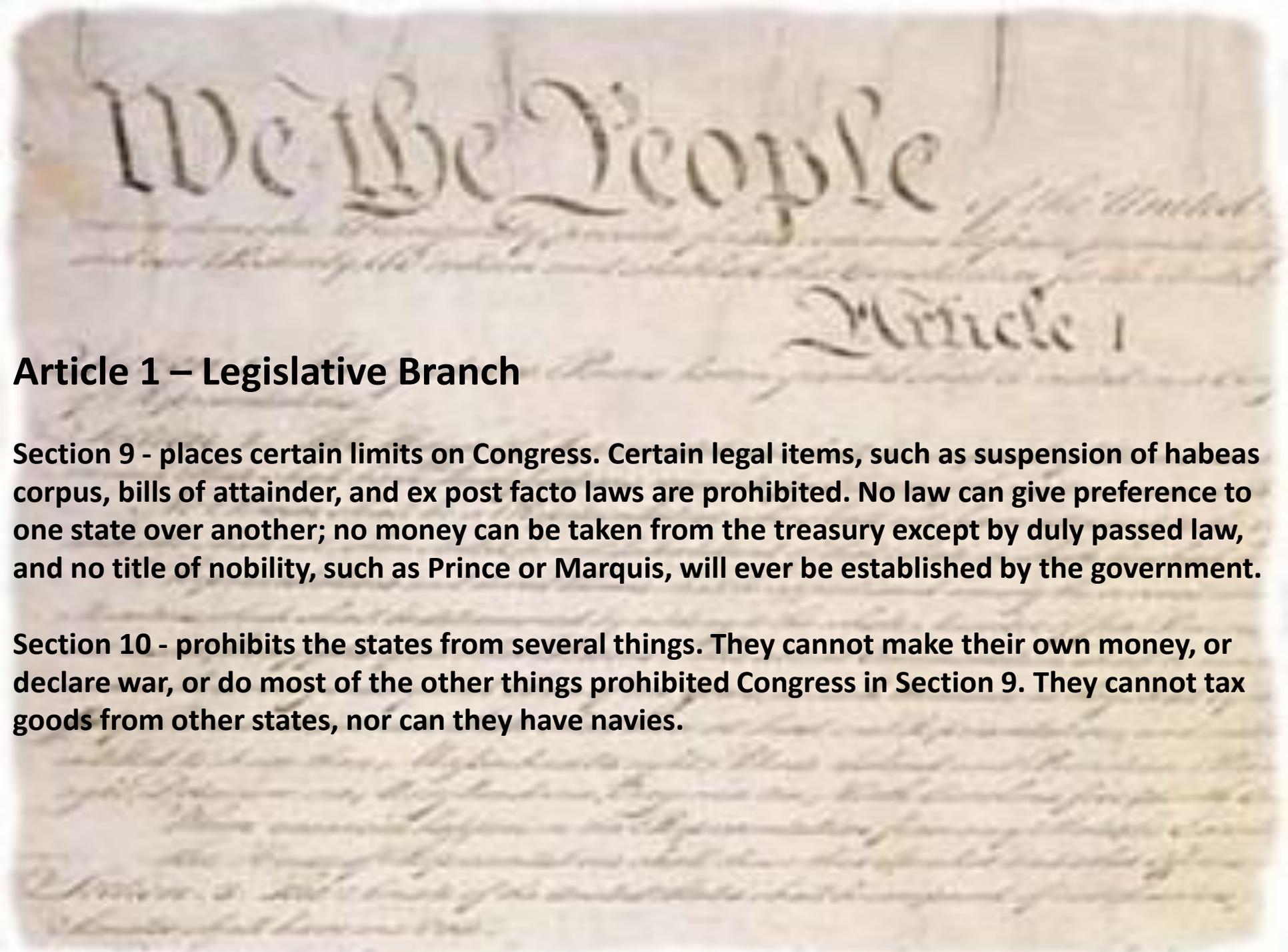
Section 4 - each state may establish its own methods for electing members of the Congress, and mandates, or requires, that Congress must meet at least once per year.

Section 5 - Congress must have a minimum number of members present in order to meet, and that it may set fines for members who do not show up. It says that members may be expelled, that each house must keep a journal to record proceedings and votes, and that neither house can adjourn without the permission of the other.

Section 6 - establishes that members of Congress will be paid, that they cannot be detained while traveling to and from Congress, that they cannot hold any other office in the government while in the Congress.

Section 7 - details how bills become law.

Section 8 - lists specific powers of Congress, including the power to establish and maintain an army and navy, to establish post offices, to create courts, to regulate commerce between the states, to declare war, and to raise money. It also includes a clause known as the Elastic Clause which allows it to pass any law necessary for the carrying out of the previously listed powers.



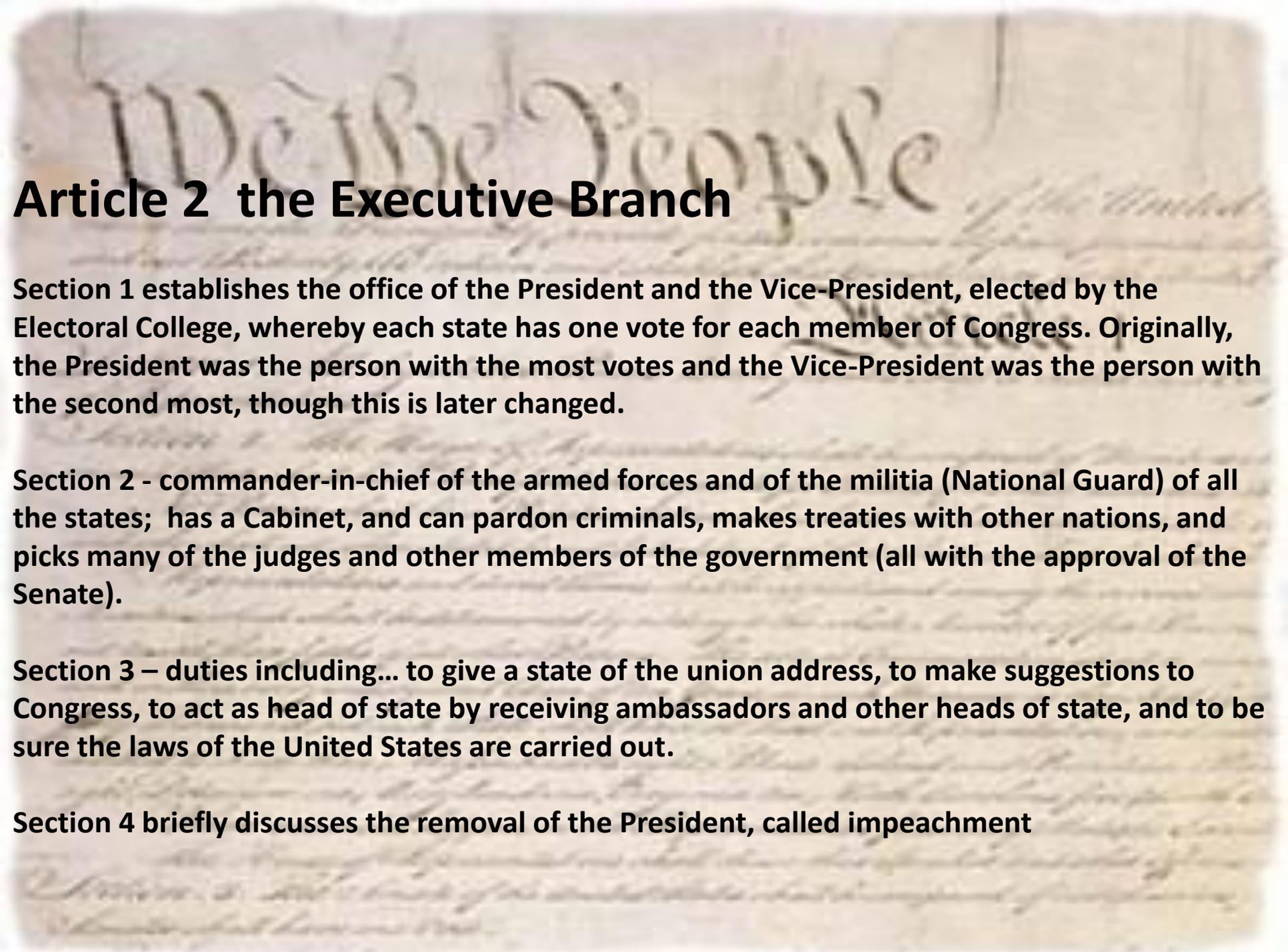
We the People

Article 1

Article 1 – Legislative Branch

Section 9 - places certain limits on Congress. Certain legal items, such as suspension of habeas corpus, bills of attainder, and ex post facto laws are prohibited. No law can give preference to one state over another; no money can be taken from the treasury except by duly passed law, and no title of nobility, such as Prince or Marquis, will ever be established by the government.

Section 10 - prohibits the states from several things. They cannot make their own money, or declare war, or do most of the other things prohibited Congress in Section 9. They cannot tax goods from other states, nor can they have navies.



Article 2 the Executive Branch

Section 1 establishes the office of the President and the Vice-President, elected by the Electoral College, whereby each state has one vote for each member of Congress. Originally, the President was the person with the most votes and the Vice-President was the person with the second most, though this is later changed.

Section 2 - commander-in-chief of the armed forces and of the militia (National Guard) of all the states; has a Cabinet, and can pardon criminals, makes treaties with other nations, and picks many of the judges and other members of the government (all with the approval of the Senate).

Section 3 – duties including... to give a state of the union address, to make suggestions to Congress, to act as head of state by receiving ambassadors and other heads of state, and to be sure the laws of the United States are carried out.

Section 4 briefly discusses the removal of the President, called impeachment

We the People

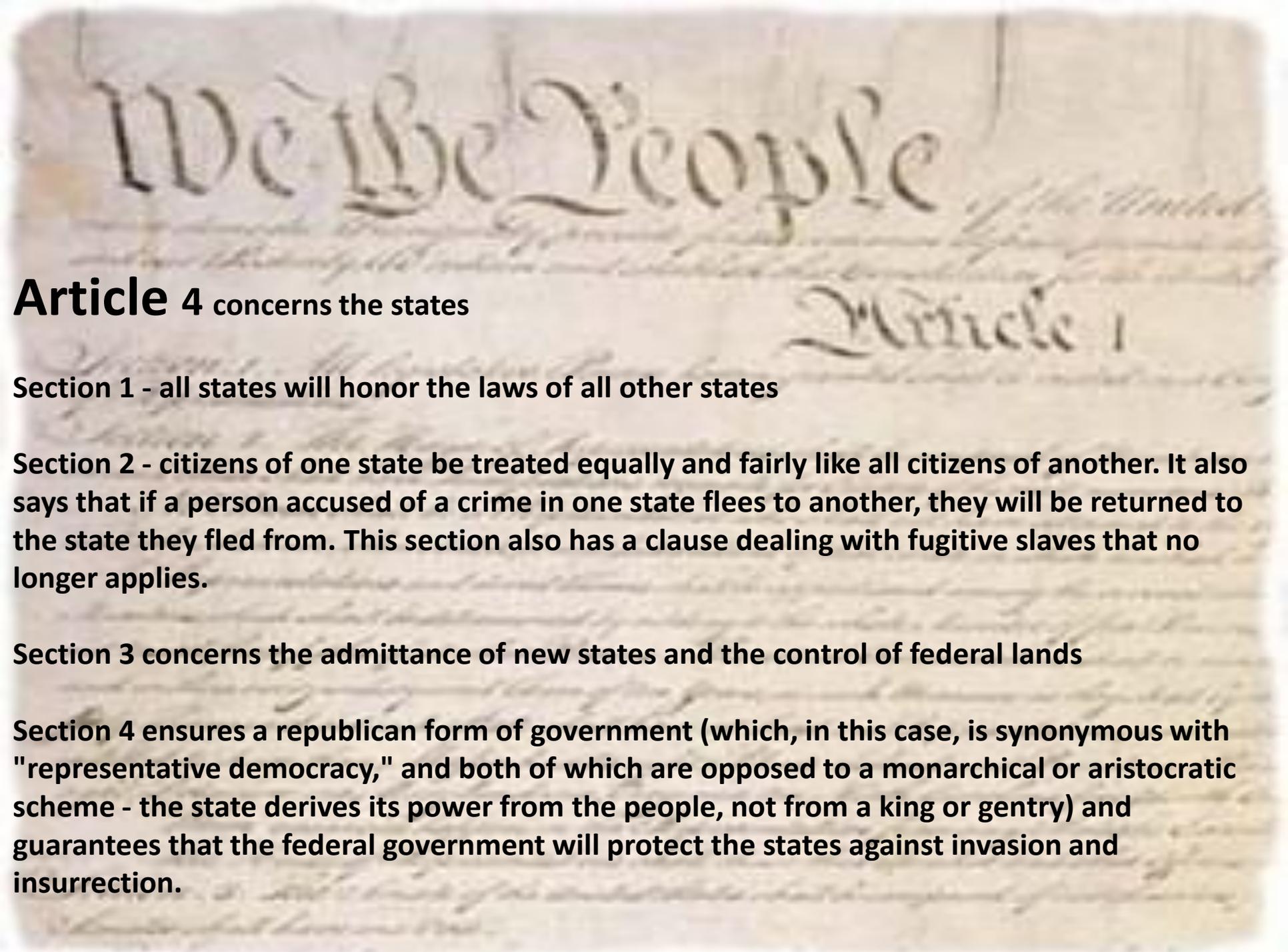
Article 1

Article 3 Judicial Branch

Section 1 establishes the Supreme Court, the highest court in the United States.

Section 2 sets the kinds of cases that may be heard by the federal judiciary, which cases the Supreme Court may hear first (called original jurisdiction), and that all other cases heard by the Supreme Court are by appeal. It also guarantees trial by jury in criminal court.

Section 3 defines, without any question, what the crime of treason is.



We the People

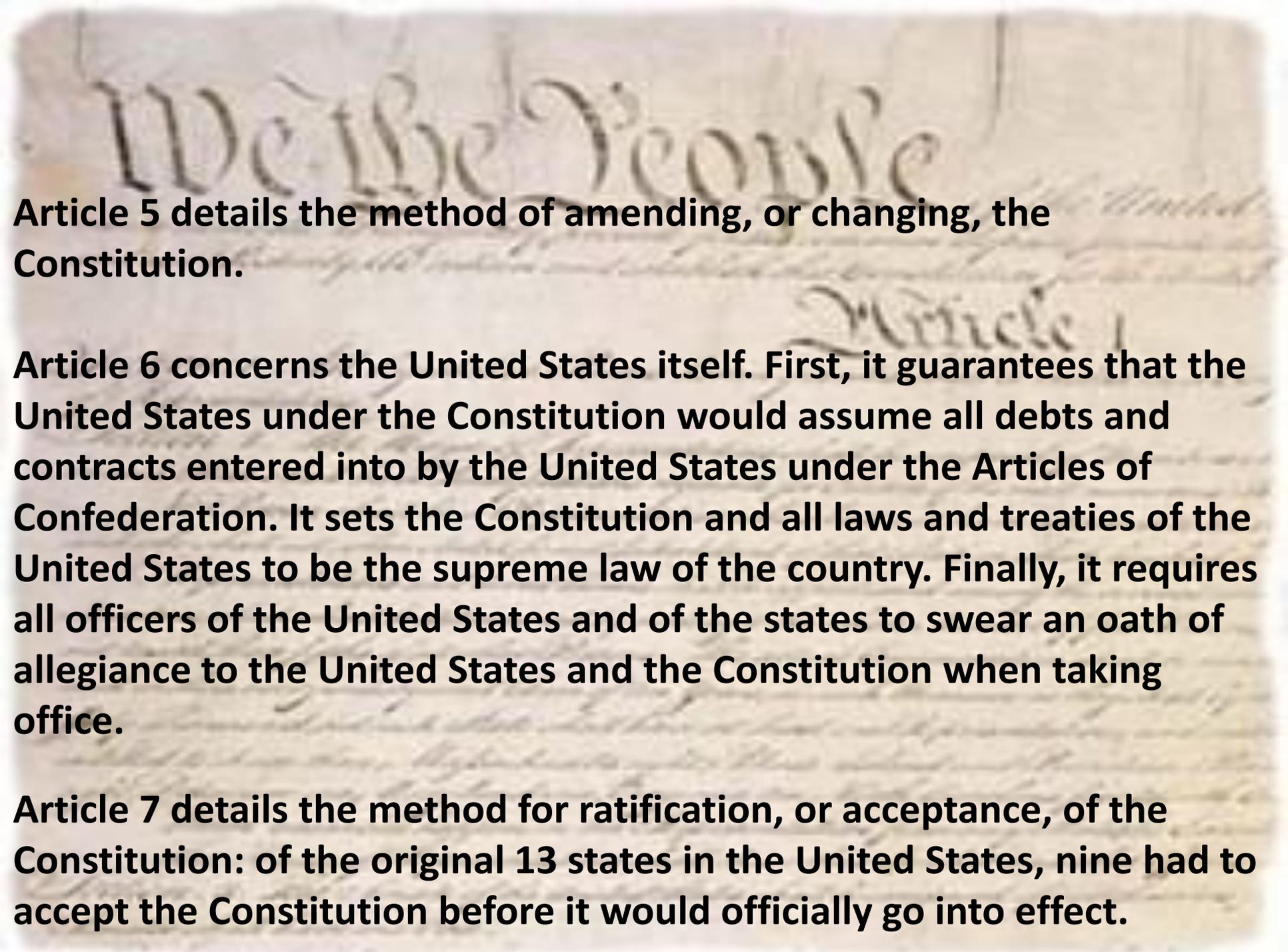
Article 4 concerns the states

Section 1 - all states will honor the laws of all other states

Section 2 - citizens of one state be treated equally and fairly like all citizens of another. It also says that if a person accused of a crime in one state flees to another, they will be returned to the state they fled from. This section also has a clause dealing with fugitive slaves that no longer applies.

Section 3 concerns the admittance of new states and the control of federal lands

Section 4 ensures a republican form of government (which, in this case, is synonymous with "representative democracy," and both of which are opposed to a monarchical or aristocratic scheme - the state derives its power from the people, not from a king or gentry) and guarantees that the federal government will protect the states against invasion and insurrection.



Article 5 details the method of amending, or changing, the Constitution.

Article 6 concerns the United States itself. First, it guarantees that the United States under the Constitution would assume all debts and contracts entered into by the United States under the Articles of Confederation. It sets the Constitution and all laws and treaties of the United States to be the supreme law of the country. Finally, it requires all officers of the United States and of the states to swear an oath of allegiance to the United States and the Constitution when taking office.

Article 7 details the method for ratification, or acceptance, of the Constitution: of the original 13 states in the United States, nine had to accept the Constitution before it would officially go into effect.

Bill of Rights – the first 10 amendments

- 1 protects the people's right to practice religion, to speak freely, to assemble (meet), to address (petition) the government, and of the press to publish.
- 2 protects the right to own guns. There is debate whether this is a right that protects the state, or a right that protects individuals.
- 3 guarantees that the army cannot force homeowners to give them room and board.
- 4 protects the people from the government improperly taking property, papers, or people, without a valid warrant based on probable cause (good reason).
- 5 protects people from being held for committing a crime unless they are properly indicted, that they may not be tried twice for the same crime, that you need not be forced to testify against yourself, and from property being taken without just compensation. It also contains due process guarantees.

Bill of Rights – the first 10 amendments

- 6 guarantees a speedy trial, an impartial jury, that the accused can confront witnesses against them, and that the accused must be allowed to have a lawyer.
- 7 guarantees a jury trial in federal civil court cases. This type of case is normally no longer heard in federal court.
- 8 guarantees that punishments will be fair, and not cruel, and that extraordinarily large fines will not be set.
- 9 simply a statement that other rights aside from those listed may exist, and just because they are not listed doesn't mean they can be violated.
- 10 essentially states that any power not granted to the federal government belongs to the states or to the people.

Unicameral legislature
1 vote per state

Bicameral legislature
1 vote for each senator &
each representative

Congress appointed by state legislatures , 1 year term , 3 of every 6 years limit, paid by state, When not in session state leg.s In control led by President of Congress, handles disputes between/among states , no control no control of trade among states, No executive branch

Representatives elected by people and senators appointed by states, 2 year term for reps, 6 for senators, no term limits, paid by federal govt when not in session President can call led by Speaker of House and V.P in Senate congress controls trade among states Executive led by President, elected by people, electoral college

The United States of America

Legislature is called Congress

Established by same general people

Served as official laws for the govt

Legislature makes laws

Federal Judiciary w/ Supreme Court, handles disputes between/among states

laws passed with 50%+1 Congress & Pres. new states admitted w/ Congress approving,

Amendments added when 2/3 of Congress approving, Only Congress can build/supply military, Only Congress can create money, No ex post facto laws or bill of attainder Taxes by & collected by Congress,

Maritime Judiciary

new states admitted with 9 states approving , Canada automatic

Amendments added when all states approve Laws passed with 9

States can have military for pirating although Federal builds army/navy, states can coin money and so can federal ,

Ex post facto & bill of attainder allowed , Taxes by Congress but collected by states

Ratification must be unanimous Sovereignty with states

Ratification by 9 Sovereignty with federal