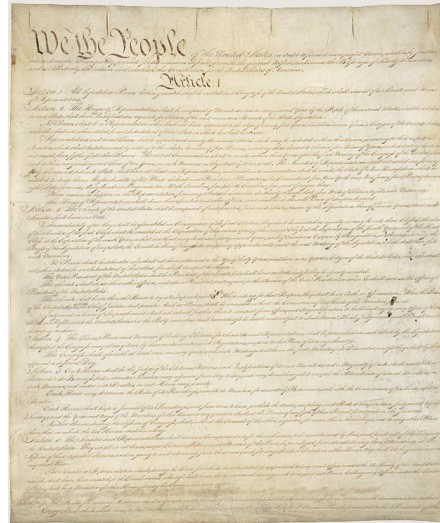


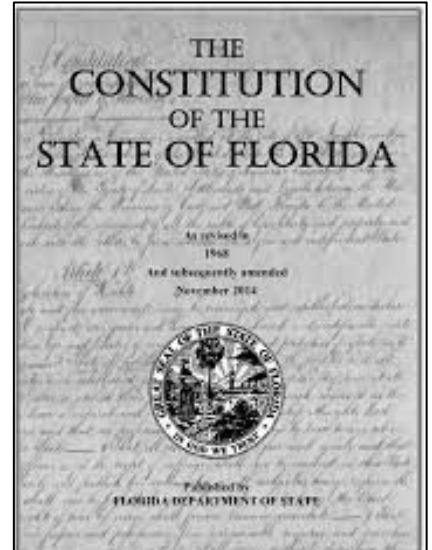
# Constitution Review

## A constitution:

- Outlines the structure, function, and powers of government
- Protects the rights of the people
- Each state in the U.S. has its own constitution



United States



Florida

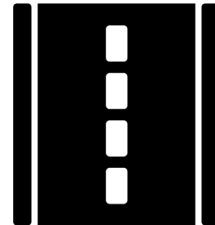
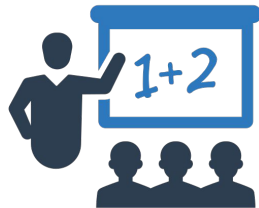
# The Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution

“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.”  
U.S. Constitution

“All powers that are not given to the United States by this Constitution nor prohibited to the states are therefore reserved either to the states or to the people.”

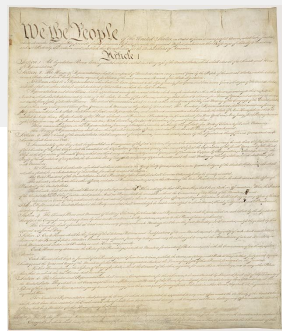
Constitution for Kids from Civic Ed

Examples of state decisions:



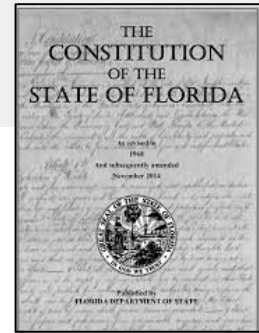
# Constitution Comparison

## United States



- 7,591 words
- Sets up three branches
- Contains a Bill of Rights
- Ratified in 1787
  - There has only ever been one version
- 27 amendments
- Last amended in 1992

## Florida



- About 39,000 words
- Sets up three branches
- Contains a Declaration of Rights
- Last ratified in 1968
  - Between 1812 and 1885 Florida went through six constitutions before the current one was ratified in 1968
- Amended 144 times
- Last amended in 2020

# The Preambles

## United States

*"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."*

## Florida

*"We, the people of the State of Florida, being grateful to Almighty God for our constitutional liberty, in order to secure its benefits, perfect our government, insure domestic tranquility, maintain public order, and guarantee equal civil and political rights to all, do ordain and establish this constitution."*

# Florida Preamble

*“We, the people of the State of Florida, being grateful to Almighty God for our constitutional liberty, in order to secure its benefits, perfect our government, insure domestic tranquility, maintain public order, and guarantee equal civil and political rights to all, do ordain and establish this constitution.”*

# Other State Constitution Facts

- Vermont has the shortest constitution (8,356 words)
- Massachusetts has the oldest constitution (1780)
- Alabama's constitution has 220,000 words and has been amended 772 times
- Louisiana has had 11 constitutions
- The most recent total rewrite of a constitution was done by Georgia in 1983
- Nebraska has a unicameral (one house) legislature (the other states all have a bicameral legislature)

# Sources

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