We the People

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. 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.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty-five Years, and been a Resident of the United States for seven Years, who shall not, when chosen, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

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 never be less than the Number now thereof, which shall be one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least a Representative.

When the Number of the inhabitants of any State shall increase in such Manner as to render it necessary to add another Representative to the House of Representatives, the added Seat shall be apportioned among them according to their respective Numbers, done in the meantime by the Congress of the United States, and the basis thereof, in each State, shall be such as the Congress of the United States shall by Law direct.

Section 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years, and vacate by Proclamation of the President, or by the Congress of the United States, according to the Rules and Directions which such Congress shall from time to time prescribe.

Each State shall have two Senators, and one Representative, and one Senator shall be chosen, at the Time of choosing Congressmen, in each State, and the Electors in each State shall have as many Votes for choosing Senators as they shall have Representatives; but each Representative shall have only one Vote.

The Terms of Congress shall begin on the third of December.

Section 4. 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 choosing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December.

Section 5. 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 be prejudicial to any Person, or the State; but no Account of any Business to be transacted shall be laid out of the Journal, without the Consent of both Houses, nor shall any Account be laid out of any Business to be transacted without the Consent of both Houses.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Consent of both Houses, expel a Member.

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