

## The Constitution of the United States

### Article I, Section 8: Powers of the Federal Government

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

- ★ To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;
- ★ To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;
- ★ To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;
- ★ To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;
- ★ To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;
- ★ To establish Post Offices and post Roads;
- ★ 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;
- ★ To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;
- ★ To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offences against the Law of Nations;
- ★ To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;
- ★ To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;
- ★ To provide and maintain a Navy;
- ★ To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

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

### **Article I, Section 10: Limitations on State Government Authority**

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.

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 it's 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 Controul of the Congress.

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.