NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

# THE IN THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the U.S. Constitution proposed at a convention of libertarian, progressive, and conservative professors and scholars on August 29 and 31, 2022



# THE CONSTITUTION DRAFTING PROJECT

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# THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

## AMENDMENT XXVIII: PRESIDENTIAL ELIGIBILITY

No person shall be eligible to the office of President, except a person who shall have attained the age of thirty five years, and been a citizen, resident in the United States, for fourteen years.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

# AMENDMENT XXIX: LEGISLATIVE VETO

Congress may by law provide for a veto, by majority votes in each of the Houses of Congress, of actions taken by the executive department, except actions adjudicating the applicability of a statute or regulation to a person. A failure by Congress to act pursuant to such a law shall not affect any judicial determination as to whether any law, or any actions of the executive department, are valid or enforceable.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.



### AMENDMENT XXX: IMPEACHMENT

The following amendment shall supersede Article I, § 3, para. 6, Article I, § 3, para. 7, and Article II, § 4 of the present Constitution:

- § 1. The President and Vice President, the judges of the supreme and inferior courts, and all civil officers of the United States shall be subject to impeachment for serious criminal acts, or for serious abuse of the public trust. Impeachments may occur up to six months, and convictions may occur up to one year, of the person leaving office.
- § 2. Upon conviction, any person currently holding office shall be removed, and any such person, or any convicted person who no longer holds office, shall be subject to disqualification to hold any elective or appointed office under the United States, or under any of the States, and the person convicted shall be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law.
- **§ 3.** The House of Representatives may impeach by a vote of three fifths of the members present, and shall set forth specific grounds in written articles of impeachment, which shall be conveyed to the Senate immediately upon adoption.
- § 4. The Senate shall have the power to try all impeachments, and shall convict on the votes of three fifths of the members present. The Senate may convict only on one or more of the articles of impeachment. When sitting for that purpose, the Senate shall be on oath or affirmation. When the President or Vice President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside.
- § 5. The House, upon passage of a resolution initiating an impeachment inquiry by a majority of the members of the House of Representatives plus five percent, and the Senate, upon passage of articles of impeachment, or a committee of the House or Senate thereafter authorized by the House or Senate, respectively, shall have power to summon witnesses and call for papers, subject to privileges grounded in this Constitution. Any refusal to comply with such summons may be prosecuted in a court of the United States as prescribed by law, and a legal officer designated by the House shall have standing to bring such prosecution without involvement by the executive branch.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.



### AMENDMENT XXXI: APPOINTMENTS

This amendment shall supersede Article II, § 2, para. 2 and Article III, § 1 of the present Constitution:

- § 1. The President shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided that three fifths of the Senators present concur; and 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 and inferior courts, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law: but 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. Nominations shall be deemed to have received the advice and consent of the Senate unless disapproved by majority vote within three months of the nomination; but any Senator shall have the right to bring any nomination to the floor for debate and vote prior to that time. Any nomination made within the last three months of the President's term shall lapse at the end of that term, unless sooner approved by the Senate.
- § 2. The judicial power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The judges of the inferior courts shall hold their offices during good behavior. Congress may by law provide for a process within the judicial department for the suspension from duty of inferior court judges on grounds of disability. Both the judges of the supreme and inferior courts shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation, the real value of which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

There shall be nine judges of the supreme court, who shall hold their offices for staggered terms of eighteen years, such that every two years there shall be a vacancy. In the event of a vacancy resulting from death, resignation, impeachment, or other inability to perform the duties of the office, a new judge shall be appointed for the duration of the term only. After a term of office has expired, the judge whose term has expired may elect to sit on an inferior court during good behavior, which court is to be determined by the Chief Justice or as Congress shall direct.

Amendment XXXI continued >



THE CONSTITUTION DRAFTING PROJECT PROPOSED AMENDMENTS § 3. After this article is ratified, the senior-most judge currently serving on the supreme court, calculated by time served on the court, shall retire by the next presidential inauguration. The President after said inauguration shall nominate a successor. Every two years thereafter for sixteen years, the most senior remaining judge shall retire by January 20, whose successor shall be nominated by the sitting President after that date. In the event of a vacancy resulting from the death, resignation, or impeachment of a judge of the supreme court sitting as of the time this article is adopted, a new judge shall be appointed for the duration of the term that would have otherwise elapsed according to this section.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.



### AMENDMENT XXXII: FUTURE AMENDMENTS

The following amendment shall supersede Article V of the present Constitution:

- § 1. The Congress, by three-fifths vote of both Houses may, or on the application of the Legislatures of a majority of the several States or by States representing two thirds of the population according to the latest national census shall, propose amendments to this Constitution, which shall be valid as part of this Constitution if ratified, within seven years of being submitted, by the legislatures or ratifying conventions of two thirds of the several States, or of States representing three fourths of the population according to the latest national census, in accordance with the constitutional processes of each State.
- § 2. Upon the application of the legislatures of two thirds of the States or of States representing three fourths of the population according to the latest national census, there shall be a general convention authorized to propose revisions to the Constitution, to be conducted in accordance with procedures enacted by Congress, which revisions shall be valid as part of this Constitution if ratified in like manner as amendments.
- § 3. No State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate, absent an amendment to the Constitution proposed by three fourths of both Houses and ratified by three fourths of the several States in accordance with the constitutional processes of each State.
- § 4. While an amendment, having been proposed, is pending ratification in the States, a State may revoke its previous ratification at any time before the requisite number of States has ratified the amendment.

This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the present Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

