

We the People of the United States, in order to secure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America

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 from each State, in the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature. No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and seven Years, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in 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 by Service and Labour, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as the Congress shall direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Persons, but each State shall have at Least one Representative.

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