

“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.”

LIBERTY VS TYRANNY

The founding fathers had good reason to pen the Tenth Amendment. The issue of power – and especially the great potential for a power struggle between the federal and the state governments – was extremely important to the America’s founders. They deeply distrusted government power, and their goal was to prevent the growth of the type of government that the British has exercised over the colonies.



ABOUT TENTH AMENDMENT CENTER

Thank you for your interest in Tenth Amendment Center, featuring comprehensive research coverage of key sovereignty issues and topics, and daily Tenth Amendment news and analysis.

The Tenth Amendment Center is a national think tank that works to preserve and protect the principles of strictly limited government through information, education, and activism. The center serves as a forum for the study and exploration of state and individual sovereignty issues, focusing primarily on the decentralization of federal government power.

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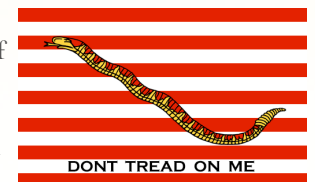
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THE TENTH AMENDMENT



10TH AMENDMENT CENTER

In the American system, sovereignty is defined as final authority, and the People, not government, are sovereign. The Tenth Amendment affirms the principle of popular sovereignty – that “We the People” are in charge and hold ultimate authority.



About the 10th Amendment

THE VIRGINIA PLAN

During the Constitutional Convention, the founders considered the “Virginia Plan.” This would have given Congress a general legislative power and a veto over state laws, among other things. The plan was defeated. What does this mean? The founders considered the kind of system we see in action today – and they rejected it.

RULE OF CONSTRUCTION

In legal terms, the 10th Amendment is known as a “rule of construction.” It tells us how to view the entire constitution – that the People of the Several States created the federal government to be their agent for certain enumerated purposes only.

DECISIONS MADE CLOSER TO HOME

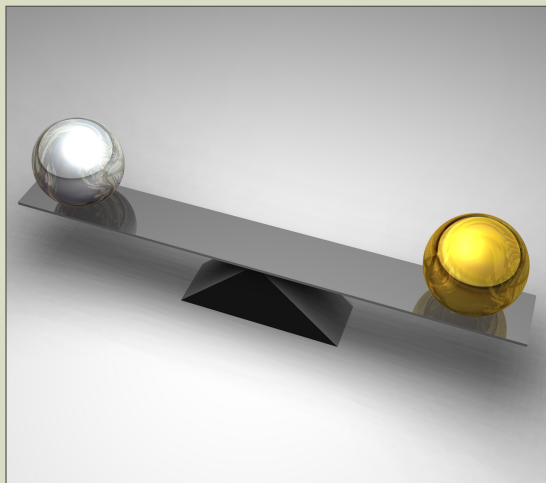
When states and local communities take the lead on policy, the people are that much closer to the policy makers, and policy makers are that much more accountable to the people. Few Americans have spoken with their president; many have spoken with their mayor.

LIMITED POWER

From their own experience, the Founders and Ratifiers learned that a government without limits is a tyranny. That’s why they gave us a written Constitution, which clearly spelled out what the federal government is authorized to do.

DELEGATED POWERS

The Tenth Amendment defines the total scope of federal power as being that which has been delegated by the people of the several states to the federal government, and nothing more. The rest is to be handled by the state governments, or locally, by the people themselves.



FROM FEDERALIST #45

“The powers delegated to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite.”

-James Madison



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10TH AMENDMENT 101



THE VISION OF THE
FOUNDERS DEAD AND GONE



TRAITORS TO THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION