

# The Madisonian Model

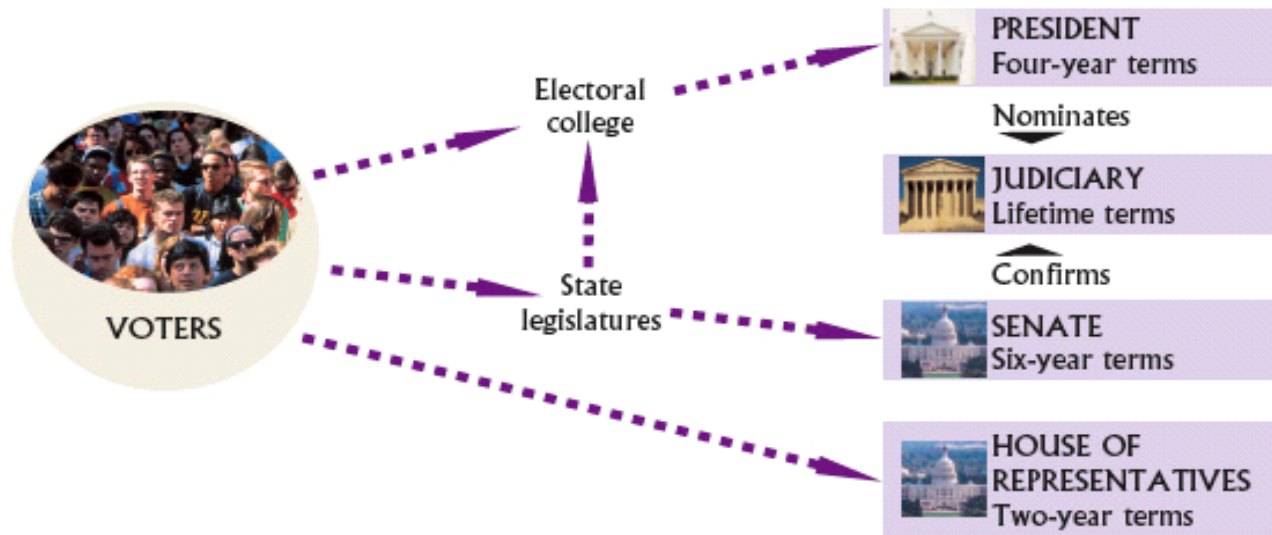


- To prevent a tyranny of the majority, Madison proposed a government of:
  - Limiting Majority Control
  - Separating Powers
  - Creating Checks and Balances
  - Establishing a Federal System

# The Madisonian Model

- The Constitution and the Electoral Process

**Figure 2.2 The Constitution and the Electoral Process: The Original Plan**

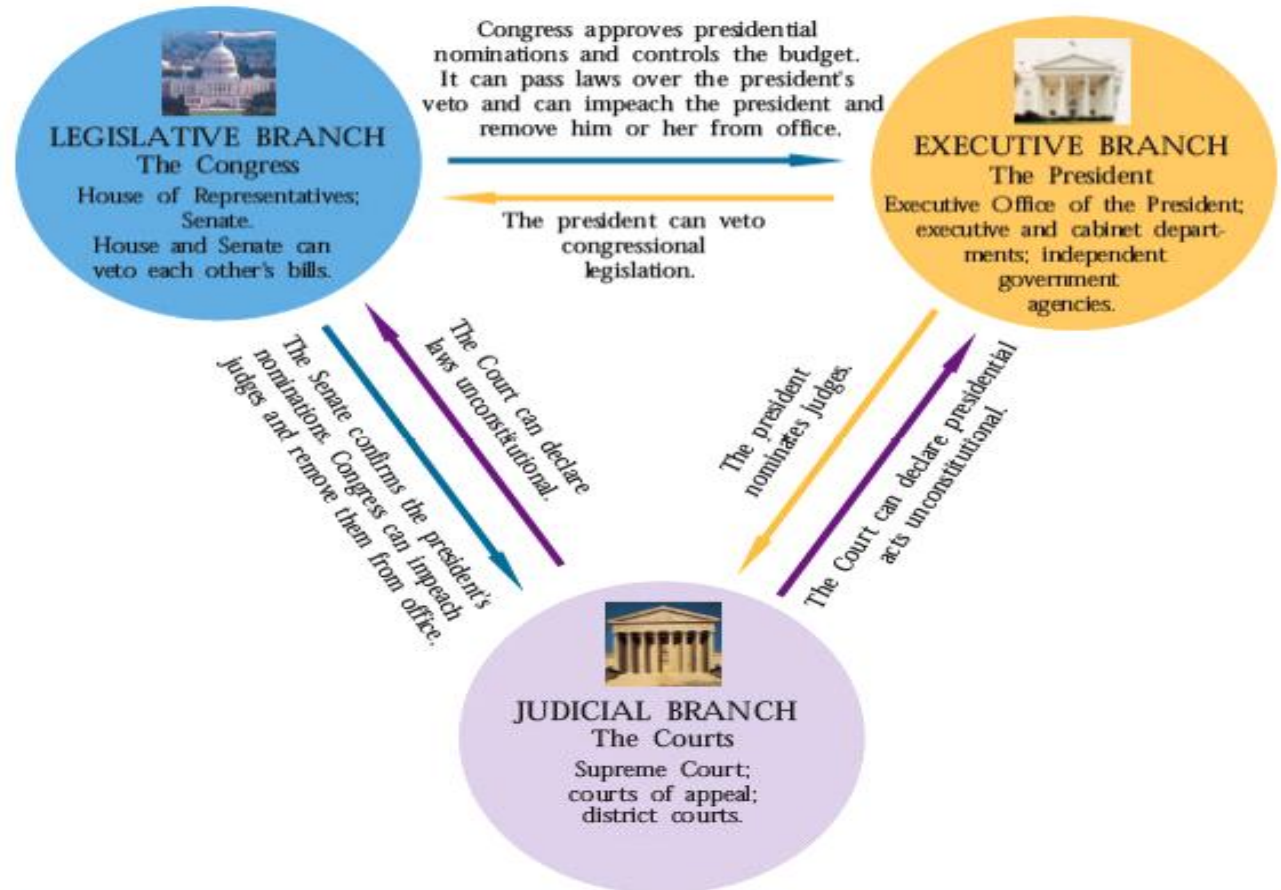


Under Madison's plan, which was incorporated in the Constitution, voters' electoral influence was limited. Only the House of Representatives was directly elected. Senators and presidents were indirectly elected, and judges were nominated by the president. Over the years, Madison's original model has been substantially democratized. The Seventeenth Amendment (1913) established direct election of senators by popular majorities. Today, the electoral college has become largely a rubber stamp, voting the way the popular majority in each state votes.

# The Madisonian Model

**Figure 2.3 Separation of Powers and Checks and Balances in the Constitution**

The doctrine of separation of powers allows the three institutions of government to check and balance one another. Judicial review—the power of courts to hold executive and congressional policies unconstitutional—was not explicit in the Constitution but was asserted by the Supreme Court in *Marbury v. Madison*.



# Ratification

**Table 2.5 Federalists and Anti-Federalists Compared**

	ANTI-FEDERALISTS	FEDERALISTS
Backgrounds	Small farmers, shopkeepers, laborers	Large landowners, wealthy merchants, professionals
Government Preferred	Strong state government Weak national government Direct election of officials Shorter terms Rule by the common man Strengthened protections for individual liberties	Weaker state governments Strong national government Indirect election of officials Longer terms Government by the elite Expected few violations of individual liberties

# Ratifying the Constitution

- Federalist Papers

- A collection of 85 articles written by Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison under the name “Publius” to defend the Constitution



- Bill of Rights

- The first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, drafted in response to some of the Anti-Federalist concerns about the lack of basic liberties



# Federalist No. 10

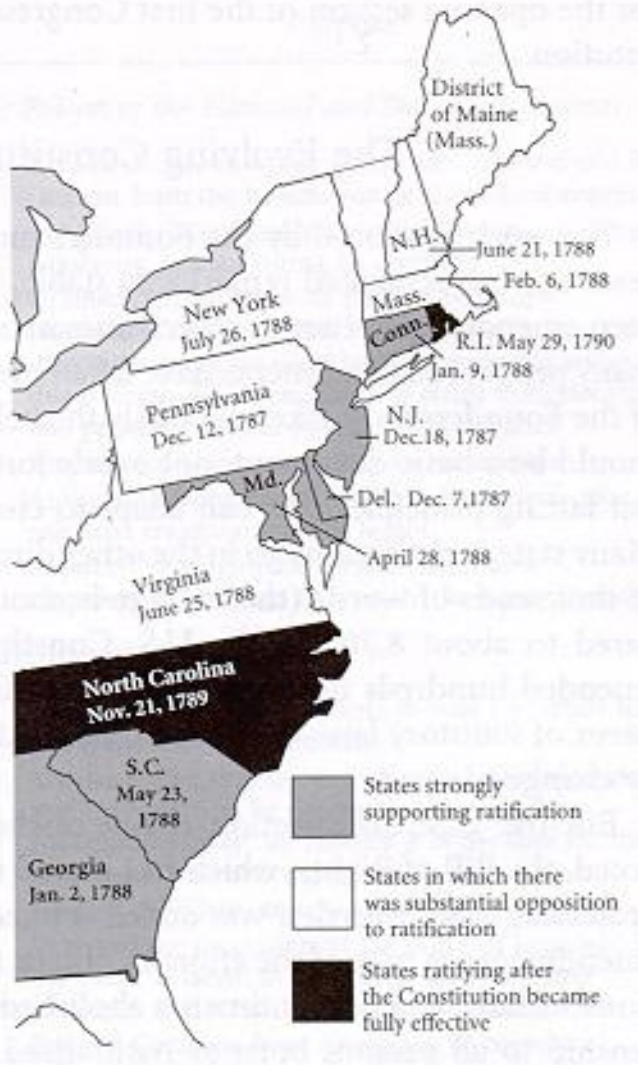
- Madison says factions are self interested groups, adverse to the interests of the community.
- Factions are sown in the seeds of human nature.
- Balances government prevents the “mischiefs of faction.”



# 2002 QUESTION

- In Federalist No. 10, James Madison argued that factions in a republic are
  - A. A more serious threat if the republic is large
  - B. Natural but controllable by institutions
  - C. Not likely to occur if people are honest
  - D. Prevented by majority rule
  - E. Prevented by free elections

# Ratifying the Constitution



- Ratification

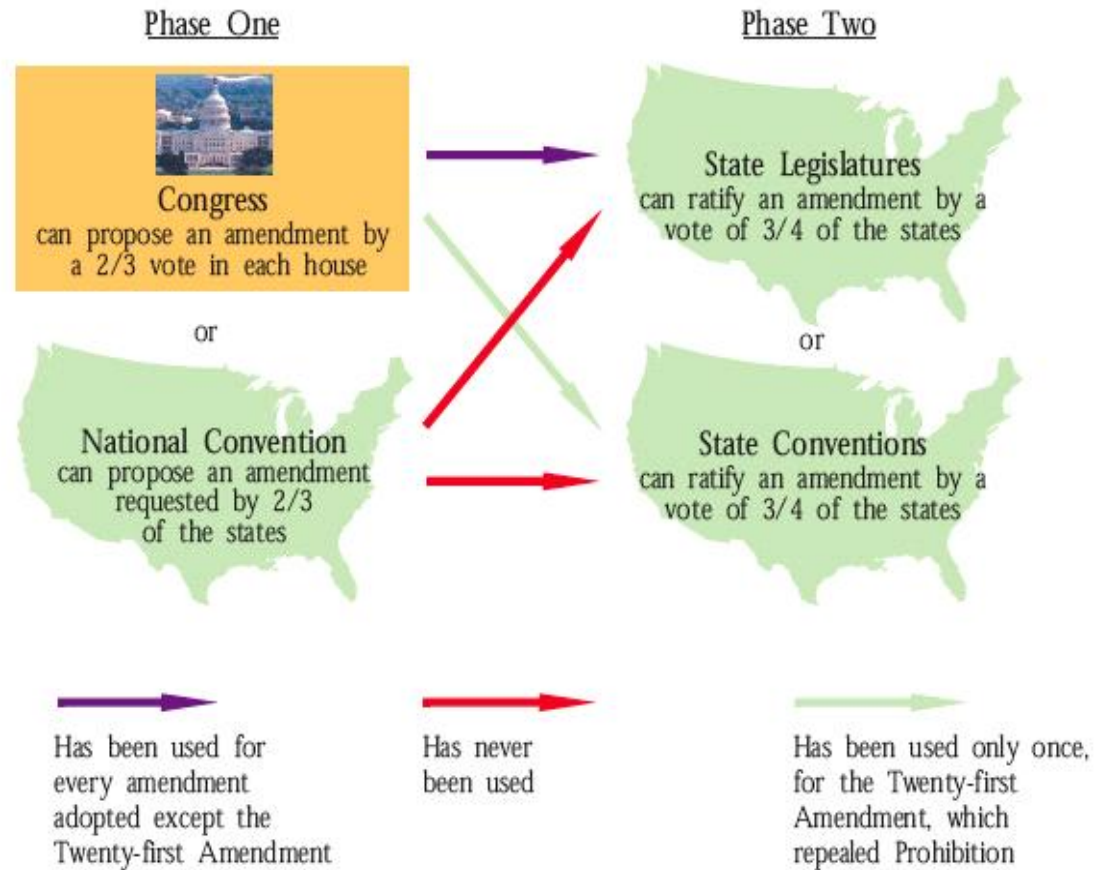
- 9/13 states were needed to ratify.
- Lacking majority support, the Federalists specified that the Constitution be ratified by state conventions, not state legislatures.
- New Hampshire's approval (the ninth state to ratify) made the Constitution official six months later.



# Constitutional Change

**Figure 2.4 How the Constitution Can Be Amended**

The Constitution sets up two alternative routes for proposing amendments and two for ratifying them. Only one of the four combinations has been used in every case but one.



# Constitutional Change

- The Informal Process of Constitutional Change
  - Judicial Interpretation
    - *Marbury v. Madison* (1803):  
judicial review
  - Changing Political Practice
  - Technology
  - Increasing Demands on Policymakers



# Summary

- The Constitution was ratified to strengthen the powers of the national government.
- Protection of individual rights guaranteed through the Bill of Rights.
- Formal and informal changes continue to shape our Madisonian system of government.

