TABLE OF CONTENTS

OVERVIEW OF *PROMOTE THE VOTE* …….. 3

What is *Promote the Vote*? …….…….. 3

What are the desired benefits to students? …… 3

Who is the Local School Coordinator? …… 3

Why a mock election? ……... 3

When is the mock election? …….. 4

What are the mock election national guidelines? …….. 4

How will the mock election work? ……... 4

How can I fund the mock election? …….. 5

What will help make our mock election successful? …….……... 5

What other *Promote the Vote* activities are available? …….. 5

Important dates …….. 6

Important numbers and addresses …… 7

***PROMOTE THE VOTE* ELECTION DAY PLANNING ……... 8**

Reporting your school's total …….……... 8

When will we find out results? …… 8

***PROMOTE THE VOTE* STUDENT COMPETITIONS …… 9**

Student Essay Contest ……... 9

Student Art Contest ……... 10

Student Political Cartoon Contest …… 11

Student Video Production Contest …… 12

Voter Registration Challenge …… 14

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITES ……... 15

Joint Partnerships …….…… 15

Field Trips …… 15

Press Activities …….. 15

Political Forums …… 15

Create the Polling Place …… 15

Host an In-Character Political Speaking Event …… 15

Student Quiz Bowl …… 15

"eXpress Yourself" Online …… 16

Speech, Debate and Forensics ……... 16

Polling Place Student Intern Program ……... 16

Guest Speakers …….. 16

APPENDIX

2003 STATEWIDE CANDIDATES……..……... A-1
VOTER REGISTRARS IN MISSISSIPPI ……. A-4
WHERE I LIVE (MAPS)……. A-5
WHO WILL REPRESENT ME?……. A-17
CAMPAIGN BROCHURE TEMPLATES…….. A-30
GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT MISSISSIPPI ELECTIONS……... A-34
Qualifications and fees for elective offices (Mississippi, 2003) ……... A-34
Qualifying to vote in Mississippi …….. A-38
Registering to vote …… A-39
Candidate qualifying deadlines for 2003 …….……. A-40
ELECTORAL VOTE: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS……. A-41
ELECTING A GOVERNOR……. A-42
ELECTION TURNOUT IN MISSISSIPPI …… A-44
MISSISSIPPI ELECTION CHART 2003-2012 ……. A-45
VOTING SYSTEMS ……. A-46
Punch Card Devices …….. A-46
Mechanical Lever Machines ……. A-47
Direct Recording Electronic Devices …… A-47
Optical Mark Reader Devices ……... A-47
Every vote counts! …… A-48
THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE …….…. A-51
THE U.S. CONSTITUTION …… A-54
THE BILL OF RIGHTS ……..……. A-63
EDITORIAL CARTOONS …….. A-64
ESSAY CONTEST COVER SHEET …….. A-65
ART CONTEST TITLE SHEET ……. A-66
POLITICAL CARTOON CONTEST TITLE SHEET …….. A-67
VIDEO PRODUCTION CONTESTS TITLE SHEET ……. A-68
VOTER REGISTRATION CHALLENGE SHEET ……. A-69
POLITICAL MESSAGE EVALUATION/SCORE SHEET ……. A-70
***PROMOTE THE VOTE* SAMPLE BALLOT …….…… A-71**
***PROMOTE THE VOTE* TALLY SHEET FOR TEACHERS …… A-72**

OVERVIEW OF *PROMOTE THE VOTE*

WHAT IS *PROMOTE THE VOTE*?

Promote the Vote is a comprehensive voter education project sponsored by the Secretary of State's Office. All schools and students in Mississippi are invited to participate. *Promote the Vote* is associated with the National Student/Parent Mock Election Program.

WHAT ARE THE DESIRED BENEFITS TO STUDENTS?

Students participating in *Promote the Vote* should improve their political decision-making abilities and increase their interest in current issues. Students should also gain a belief that civic responsibility and voting are important freedoms and should be motivated to act on those beliefs as adults.

WHO IS THE LOCAL SCHOOL COORDINATOR?

Each school or program should have a Coordinator to facilitate the *Promote the Vote* Program. This person has many responsibilities, among which are the following:

- Organizing voter education activities within the school.
- Acting as liaison between the school and the school district, local elected officials, local civic organizations, the local media, and the Secretary of State's Office.
- Recruiting volunteers to assist in various tasks on Election Day.
- Calling in the Mock Election Vote Report to the Secretary of State's Office.
- Recruiting and assigning leaders for the various activities of the program -- Art Contests, Political Cartoon Contests, Essay Contests, Video Project Contests, and Voter Registration Challenge.
- Delegating, delegating, delegating.

We hope your fellow educators, your students and their parents, and your local civic and business leaders will lend a hand in your efforts. We believe that by working together, communities and neighborhoods all over Mississippi will experience a surge in voter turnout and more importantly, an enthusiasm for our democratic process.

WHY A MOCK ELECTION?

Research reveals that civic participation has decreased drastically in the United States over the last three decades. This alarming trend was depicted by the voter turn out in Mississippi in the state's last two large elections. In the 1999 statewide election for Governor, only 763,938 votes were cast -- representing 37.6 percent of our voting age population. In 2000, only 994,184 voters, or 48.6% of the 2000 voting age population, participated in the Presidential election. That election was nationally one of the closest ever, and the outcome was in doubt for weeks after Election Day. The fact that only 51.2% of the national voting age population participated in that election shows how casually many Americans take their right to vote. *Promote the Vote* is an attempt to reverse this trend by teaching the fundamentals of our democracy and encouraging students to enthusiastically practice their civic responsibilities.

The Mock Election Program of *Promote the Vote* is designed to increase awareness and understanding of the election process, to encourage students to get involved in the process, and ultimately, to create a generation of informed voting adults.

In light of our nation's experience on September 11 and our recent war in Iraq, patriotism has once again become fashionable. *Promote the Vote* seeks to teach Mississippi students about the substance that supports that national pride. Americans express their opinions through their votes, and when they choose different leadership, those who have been voted out leave peacefully. They don't use guns or bombs or any sort of violence to retain power. Voting and the peaceful transfer of leadership are two of the greatest freedoms promised in this country, paid for by the sacrifices of millions of Americans over the past two and a quarter centuries. In the wake of America's reawakened patriotism, reminding students why this nation is great is more important than ever.

WHEN IS THE MOCK ELECTION?

Mock Election Day across Mississippi is **Tuesday, October 28, 2003.** This is one week before the actual Election Day, Tuesday, November 4, 2003.

WHAT ARE THE MOCK ELECTION GUIDELINES?

The guidelines for the Mock Election are the following:

- All parties must be included on the ballot.
- Participants must cast votes for all offices and issues on the ballot.
- The project must be conducted strictly for educational purposes.
- No student may be charged to participate.
- No student may be denied the opportunity to vote.
- The curriculum activities must never be used for political purposes.

HOW WILL THE MOCK ELECTION WORK?

The Mock Election is open to all students who attend any Mississippi school or program registered for "Promote the Vote." Other interested students who do not attend an enrolled school or program may obtain a Mock Election ballot directly from the Secretary of State's Office.

The Secretary of State's Office will provide official *Promote the Vote* ballots to registered schools or programs. You may wish to offer students the opportunity to vote on local races or issues. These issues should be on separate ballots and results should *not* be reported to the Secretary of State's Office. However, the Secretary of State's Office would be interested in seeing what issues are of local interest to your schools, and would be pleased if you would send us copies of any additional ballots.

Open the polls at a time convenient to students and the school's schedule. After the polls close, votes should be counted and reported to the Secretary of State's Office. Telephone, *Promote the Vote* website, address, and fax numbers are shown on page 7 in this guide. They also are available on the Voting Tally Sheet for Teachers on page A-72.

All voting should be complete by 3:00 p.m. on October 28. The Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office will take your voting results until 5:00 p.m. that day. Mississippi totals will then be sent to National Student/Parent Mock Election. Results will be posted on the *Promote the Vote* section of the Secretary of State's website www.sos.state.ms.us/ed_pubs/Educational/VoterEd.

Please note – Promote the Vote participants are required to report *only* to the Secretary of State's Office. We are responsible for coordinating and reporting your votes to the National Student/Parent Mock Election Headquarters. If you are contacted directly by the national organization, please refer them to our office. We do not want you to have to duplicate your efforts!

HOW CAN I FUND THE MOCK ELECTION?

We suggest that your local efforts be as cost-free as possible. The use of volunteers should assist in cutting or eliminating costs. If your school or classes plan activities such as field trips (which may incur costs), we suggest soliciting the assistance of elected officials, businesses, parents' associations, and civic organizations in your area. Among state civic organizations who may offer assistance are: AARP, the Catholic Diocese, the Circuit Clerks Association of Mississippi, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Election Commissioners Association of Mississippi, the League of Women Voters, Mississippi School Associations, the NAACP, or any number of local civic groups involved with schools in your area. Local elected officials who should be happy to help include Circuit Clerks, Municipal Clerks, and Election Commissioners.

WHAT WILL HELP MAKE OUR MOCK ELECTION SUCCESSFUL?

Make it known!

Mississippi's media community has enthusiastically embraced "Promote the Vote." We believe your local and area newspapers, radio stations, and television stations will be happy to cover your *Promote the Vote* story. Invite the media to publicize your efforts and cover some of your special events.

Make it realistic!

Make vote casting as realistic as possible. Again, ask your local Election Commissioners, Circuit Clerk, state Legislators, and Municipal Clerk to help. This will allow students an opportunity to meet elected officials and get a feel for the real voting process.

To more closely resemble the real voting experience, many schools require that their students register to vote prior to participating in the Mock Election. Any plans related to registration requirements are left to the discretion of local school authorities.

Ask experienced poll workers to help. They know all about setting up polling places and the other processes included in the voting place. Have the polling place set up and staffed like the real thing. Elected officials or experienced poll workers may volunteer to serve as poll workers alongside your students. Remember, use of experienced adult volunteers can reduce the number of school employees taken away from their normal educational and supervisory duties.

Should you wish to use students as poll workers, you may want to conduct a poll workers' workshop to explain the roles of the managers, workers, and poll watchers. Local elected officials may be of great value in the sort of program, as well.

Make it special!

You can make Mock Election Day special. For example, you can arrange a school rally for younger students with patriotic songs and speeches or have a ceremony around the flagpole. Older students could engage in role-playing and acting out the parts of candidates and political activists on Election Day. We encourage you to try whatever activities will create excitement about Mock Election Day in your given school community.

WHAT OTHER *PROMOTE THE VOTE* ACTIVITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

In addition to Mock Election Day, educators are urged to include voter education and citizenship activities into their teaching curriculums during the week of **October 20-24 – *Promote the Vote* Education Week.** Age-appropriate strategies for instruction have been sent with this guide to all registered schools and programs – these documents are also available on the *Promote the Vote* website at

www.sos.state.ms.us/ed_pubs/Educational/VoterEd. Please also review our collection of suggested extra-curricular activities starting on page 15 to help spark your creativity for Mock Election Day.

Three special contests are also being offered as *Promote the Vote* activities:

- **ART CONTEST --** This is for students in grades K-12, with four age groups – K-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12. State winners in two categories will receive scholarship awards or savings bonds. Student winners will be recognized at an Awards Day planned for early 2004.
- **POLITICAL CARTOON CONTEST** – This is for students in grades 7-12. State winners in two categories (7-9 and 10-12) will receive scholarship awards or savings bonds. Student winners will be recognized at an Awards Day planned for early 2004.
- **ESSAY CONTEST** -- This is for students in grades 7-12. State winners in two categories (7-9 and 10-12) will receive scholarship awards or savings bonds. Student winners will be recognized at an Awards Day planned for early 2004.
- **VIDEO PRODUCTION CONTEST** -- This is for students in grades 7-12. State winners in two categories (7-9 and 10-12) will receive awards for their schools. Student winners will be recognized at an Awards Day planned for early 2004.
- **VOTER REGISTRATION CHALLENGE --** This is for all high schools with students who will be 18 years of age by November 4, 2003. The winning school will receive special honors from the Secretary of State.

Rules for each contest are included in the Contests section of this guide beginning on page 9.

IMPORTANT DATES

September 15	All school coordinators begin receiving hard copies of the *Promote the Vote* Activity Guide. Copies will be available for download on this date as well.
October 3	Last day 18 year-olds can register to vote in the November 4, 2003, General Election.
October 20-24	*Promote the Vote* Education Week.
October 28	Mock Election Day.
November 4	General Election.
November 21	Essay, Art, Political Cartoon, and Video Production Contest submissions due. Also, deadline to submit names for Voter Registration Challenge.
Early 2004	*Promote the Vote* Awards Day in Jackson

IMPORTANT NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES

The following are important numbers and addresses for the Secretary of State's Office:

- **EDUCATION AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION……(601) 359-6350**
- **TOLL-FREE NUMBER…….. 1-800-256-3494**
- **FAX NUMBER……..(601) 359-1499**
- **OFFICE ADDRESS……..301 North President Street**
  Jackson, MS 39201

- **MAILING ADDRESS……..Post Office Box 136**
  Jackson, MS 39205

- **E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

  Promote the Vote……ptv@sos.state.ms.us
  Secretary of State's Office…… www.sos.state.ms.us
  Locate your Legislator……. www.vote-smart.org

- **WEBSITE ADDRESS…….www.sos.state.ms.us/ed_pubs/Educational/VoterEd**

CALL US FOR DIRECTIONS TO OUR OFFICE IF YOU ARE COMING BY.

OTHER IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- **DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF MISSISSIPPI……..(601) 969-2913**
- **MISSISSIPPI REPUBLICAN PARTY……..(601) 948-5191**
- **CANDIDATE ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBERS……Please consult candidate list on page A-1.**

PROMOTE THE VOTE **ELECTION DAY PLANNING**

REPORTING YOUR SCHOOL'S TOTALS:

Mock Election Day across Mississippi is Tuesday, October 28, 2003. All votes must be reported to the Secretary of State's Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Mock Election Day. We suggest the following process:

1. After collecting and counting ballots, use the "Tally Sheet" ballot provided on page A-72 of this guide.
2. Fill in totals in spaces provided.
3. Submit totals to the Secretary of State's Office (please use "Tally Sheet," if possible).
4. You can report three ways:

   - **Fax** - *Your best option*. Fax results to: 1-601-359-1499;
   - **Telephone** - Call toll-free 1-800-256-3494 or call 601-359-6350; and
   - **E-mail** - Our Internet reporting address is **ptv@sos.state.ms.us.**

REMEMBER: Deadline for reporting your results to the Secretary of State's Office is 5:00 p.m. on October 28th.

Here is a suggested plan of action:

A. Estimate how many ballots you'll need for your students. A sample ballot with candidate names only is included in this guide.
B. The Secretary of State's Office will send you enough ballots for the number of students participating you listed on your registration form. If you require more ballots, let this office know how many ballots you need and we will mail them to you. You may also download copies of the ballot from the *Promote the Vote* section of the Secretary of State's Office website. *Please note: if you included a number of participating students on your Promote the Vote registration, your school will automatically be sent that number of ballots.*
C. Please report results on the "Tally Sheets" (also included in this guide).

WHEN WILL WE FIND OUT RESULTS?

The Secretary of State's Office will be posting school results from the Mississippi Student Mock Election on our website at www.sos.state.ms.us/ed_pubs/Educational/VoterEd on Tuesday, October 28th. Results begin to be posted after 3:00 p.m. The final results will be sent to the National Student/Parent Mock Election.

PROMOTE THE VOTE **STUDENT COMPETITIONS**

STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST

An important opportunity in the *Promote the Vote* mock election program is the student essay contest. This activity allows Mississippi students a chance to express their views on important issues and provides a forum to have their opinions heard.

In recognition of the 2003 Vote in Honor of a Veteran Program and in honor of the service men and women who have fought for our freedom, the topic students are asked to address is **"Veterans and Democracy: Preserving our Freedom, Exercising our Responsibilities."** Students should fully develop ideas to encourage voter participation and civic involvement by citizens and to recognize the contributions veterans have made to preservation of democracy.

The state competition consists of two grade-level categories:

- Grades 7-9
- Grades 10-12

Each participating school may submit to the state contest only one winning essay per category. Honors will be extended to first, second, and third place winners in each category. Top winners will receive scholarship awards or savings bonds.

All Essay Contest submissions become the property of the Secretary of State's Office upon arrival.

ESSAY CONTEST JUDGING PROCESS

Student essay writers' names and addresses will be kept secret from the judges until winners are announced.

- Essays that do not conform to the Official Rules of the Contest shall be judged ineligible for competition. All other essays shall be considered eligible for competition.
- Essays will be assigned an identification number upon receipt.
- Essays will be judged for content, style, and form.
- A panel of judges will be selected by the Secretary of State.
- Identities of the judges will be kept secret until winners are announced.
- First, second, and third place winners will be selected from two categories: Grades 7-9, and grades 10-12.
- Winners will be announced and honored by the Secretary of State in early 2004. An Awards Day will be held some time after the announcement, at which winners will receive scholarship/savings bonds awards along with certificates of recognition.

ESSAY CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES

1) All entries must be postmarked no later than **November 21, 2003**.
2) Entries must be sent to the *Promote the Vote* Essay Contest, Secretary of State's Office, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205.
3) Essays must be typed or printed, double-spaced, on 8.5 x 11 (letter size) paper.
4) All pages must be numbered in the upper right hand corner.
5) Essays are limited to ten pages.
6) Contestants must be in grades seven through twelve.

7) The essay must be the work of the contestant.
8) Direct quotations from sources must be properly attributed.
9) Only one essay may be submitted by each contestant.
10) Each essay must be accompanied by a cover sheet containing the contestant's name, grade, school or program, age, social security number (for winners' savings bonds), address, county, and telephone number. (A sample cover sheet is available on page A-65.)
11) Entries must be accompanied by a statement from the school or program coordinator verifying that the entry has been selected a winner from the school or program. (See sample cover sheet.)
12) Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification.
13) The Secretary of State's Office will not be able to return submitted essays. Please keep a copy for the student's own records.

STUDENT ART CONTEST

We encourage students in *Promote the Vote* to express their patriotism and creativity by designing artwork depicting civic responsibility and voter participation. Many times the works of these young artists make the most lasting impressions.

The theme for this year's Art Contest is **"Veterans and Democracy: The Cost of Freedom"** in recognition of the contributions and sacrifices service men and women have made to the preservation of our democracy. Entries should be sent to the "Promote the Vote Coordinator" at the Promote the Vote address. All entries become the property of the Secretary of State's Office.

Awards will be granted in four categories:

- Grades K-3
- Grades 4-6
- Grades 7-9
- Grades 10-12

First, second, and third place winners will be announced for each category. Top winners will receive scholarship/savings bonds awards along with certificates of recognition.

Suggested media for drawings are markers, colored pencils, watercolors, poster paints, acrylics, graphite, pen, and ink. We discourage pastels or charcoal because these are fragile applications and may be harmed in the mailing/judging process. Required papers are *sturdy* 11" x 17" white or manila drawing paper or watercolor paper. Our intent is to preserve the integrity of the student's artwork. Graphic design projects should be printed.

The *Promote the Vote* Art Contest is open to Mississippi students in grades kindergarten through twelve.

ART CONTEST JUDGING PROCESS

Artists' names and addresses will be kept secret from the judges until winners are announced.

- Submissions that do not conform to the Official Rules of the Contest shall be judged ineligible for competition. All other submissions shall be considered eligible for competition.
- Submissions will be assigned an identification number upon receipt.
- Submissions will be judged for content, originality and artistic merit.
- A panel of judges will be selected by the Secretary of State.
- First, second, and third place winners will be selected from each of the four categories.

- Winners will be announced and honored by the Secretary of State in early 2004. Winners will be recognized at an Awards Day, at which they will receive scholarship/savings bonds awards along with certificates of recognition.

STATE ART CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES

1) All entries must be postmarked no later than **November 21, 2003**.
2) Entries must be sent to the Secretary of State's Office, *Promote the Vote* Art Contest, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205.
3) Contestants must be enrolled in grades kindergarten through twelve.
4) Entries must be original artwork by the student.
5) The contestant's name must NOT appear on the front of the artwork.
6) Only one entry is allowed per contestant.
7) A title sheet containing the contestant's name, address, age, social security number (for winners' savings bonds), grade, school/program, county, artwork title, and brief description of the idea depicted should be attached to the back of the artwork. (Please see sample title sheet on page A-66.)
8) Each entry must be accompanied by school/Program Coordinator verification of the entry.
9) Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification.
10) The Secretary of State's Office will not be able to return submitted artwork. Please take photos or make copies for the student's own records.

STUDENT POLITICAL CARTOON CONTEST

Political cartooning is an influential way for individuals to express political opinions and send a powerful message similar to the cartoon presented here. (*Printed with permission from the artist, Marshall Ramsey).* The combination of artistry and humor or poignancy often creates indelible images in the minds of readers. We believe students have the ability to use this unique medium to express their own ideas.

The theme for this year's Political Cartoon Contest is "**Veterans and Democracy**" in recognition of the 2003 *Vote with a Veteran* program and the role veterans have played and continue to play in the preservation of democracy in this country around the world.

Entries should be sent to the "Promote the Vote Coordinator" at the Promote the Vote address. All entries become the property of the Secretary of State's Office.

Awards will be granted in two categories:

- Grades 7-9
- Grades 10-12

First, second, and third place winners will be announced for each category. Top winners will receive scholarship/savings bonds awards along with certificates of recognition.

Participants are asked to use white, unlined paper and black ink or pencil. Color cartoons, like those that appear in the Sunday paper comics, are discouraged. Entries should have some sort of backing made of sturdy paper. Our intent is to preserve the integrity of the student's artwork.

The *Promote the Vote* Political Cartoon Contest is open to Mississippi students in grades seven through twelve.

POLITICAL CARTOON CONTEST JUDGING PROCESS

Artists' names and addresses will be kept secret from the judges until winners are announced.

- Submissions that do not conform to the Official Rules of the Contest shall be judged ineligible for competition. All other submissions shall be considered eligible for competition.
- Submissions will be assigned an identification number upon receipt.
- Submissions will be judged for content, originality and artistic merit.
- A panel of judges will be selected by the Secretary of State.
- First, second, and third place winners will be selected from each of the two categories.
- Winners will be announced and honored by the Secretary of State in early 2004. Winners will be recognized at an Awards Day, at which they will receive scholarship/savings bonds awards along with certificates of recognition.

STATE POLITICAL CARTOON CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES

1) All entries must be postmarked no later than **November 21, 2003**.
2) Entries must be sent to the Secretary of State's Office, *Promote the Vote* Political Cartoon Contest, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205.
3) Contestants must be enrolled in grades seven through twelve.
4) Entries must be original artwork by the student.
5) The contestant's name must NOT appear on the front of the artwork.
6) Only one entry is allowed per contestant.
7) A title sheet containing the contestant's name, address, age, social security number (for winners' savings bonds), grade, school/program, county, artwork title, and brief description of the idea depicted should be attached to the back of the artwork. (Please see sample title sheet on page A-67.)
8) Each entry must be accompanied by school/Program Coordinator verification of the entry.
9) Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification.
10) The Secretary of State's Office will not be able to return submitted artwork. Please take photos or make copies for the student's own records.

STUDENT VIDEO PRODUCTION CONTEST

Video, particularly on television, is one of the most common mediums used to spread political messages. Students who understand how video messages are produced become more intelligent consumers of such messages. The video medium is an exciting format for students to creatively express their opinions and share information with others.

The theme for this year's Video Production Contest is **"Veterans and Democracy: Honor our Veterans with a Vote!"** Entries should be developed as public service announcements that aim to increase the awareness of voting as an exercise of our freedom. The projects should promote the benefits of voting from the perspectives of those who fought for this freedom. Entries should be sent to the

"Promote the Vote Coordinator" at the Promote the Vote address. All entries become the property of the Secretary of State's Office.

Awards will be granted in two categories:

- Grades 7-9
- Grades 10-12

First, second, and third place winner groups will be announced for each category.

Winners will be announced and honored by the Secretary of State in early 2003. An Awards Day will be held some time after the announcement, at which winners will receive certificates of recognition. *Because video production submissions are group projects, Promote the Vote will be unable to provide savings bond awards to the individual student winners in this category. Instead, awards will be made to the schools.*

Submissions should be no longer than 2 minutes. While adult supervision of equipment use is encouraged, adult assistance in scripting and performance is STRICTLY prohibited. Participants are asked to submit their project on VHS video containing ONLY the submission. If a given school should desire to make more than one submission, each submission must be on a different tape.

The names of the students and school involved in a submission may not appear at the beginning of a submission, and may appear at the end ONLY after a ten second delay, to ensure unbiased judging.

The *Promote the Vote* Video Production Contest is open to Mississippi students in grades seven through twelve.

VIDEO PRODUCTION CONTEST JUDGING PROCESS

Students' names, schools names, and addresses will be kept secret from the judges until winners are announced.

- Submissions that do not conform to the Official Rules of the Contest shall be judged ineligible for competition. All other submissions shall be considered eligible for competition.
- Submissions will be assigned an identification number upon receipt.
- Submissions will be judged for content, originality and artistic merit.
- A panel of judges will be selected by the Secretary of State.
- First, second, and third place winners will be selected from each of the two categories.
- Winners will be announced and honored by the Secretary of State in early 2004. Winners will be recognized at an Awards Day, at which they will receive certificates of recognition.

VIDEO PRODUCTION CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES

1) All entries must be postmarked no later than **November 21, 2003**.
2) Entries must be sent to the Secretary of State's Office, *Promote the Vote* Video Production Contest, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205.
3) Contestants must be enrolled in grades seven through twelve.
4) Entries must be original work of the students.
5) The students' names and school name must NOT appear at the beginning of the submission, only at the end, ten seconds after the end of the submission.
6) Only one entry is allowed per group of contestants.

7) A title sheet containing the contestants' names, school/program, school address, ages, grades, county, project title, and brief description of the theme depicted should be included with the tape. (Please see sample title sheet on page A-68.)
8) Each entry must be accompanied by school/Program Coordinator verification of the entry.
9) Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification.
10) The Secretary of State's Office will not be able to return submitted projects. Please take make copies for the students' and school's records.

VOTER REGISTRATION CHALLENGE

Mississippi students who turn 18 years old on or before November 4, 2003, are eligible to register to vote in the November 4th election. In order to do so, they must register with their county Circuit Clerk by 5:00 p.m., October 3, 2004.

To participate in the Challenge, a school should develop a list of names of all their students who will be 18 years old on or before November 4, and note how many of those students have registered to vote. The list(s) should be submitted to this office no later than **November 21, 2003.** The Secretary of State's Office will recognize the schools with the highest percentage of registered first-time voters in early 2004.

The *Promote the Vote* Voter Registration Challenge entry form is located on page A-69 of this guide.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

This section describes *Promote the Vote* activities that school organizations, clubs, teams, classes, or other groups may direct and participate in. Many of these activities may be of particular use during *Promote the Vote* Education Awareness Week, October 20-24, 2003.

JOINT PARTNERSHIPS

Directed by a service organization or club, students could sponsor an event for local veterans of wars, the civil rights movements and major campaigns to share their stories. Because today's students have seen few threats to the nation's freedom or to a group's right to vote, the stories many older Americans tell can be very enlightening.

FIELD TRIPS

Schools are encouraged to take students on trips to local and regional sites of civic importance, such as local government offices, candidate campaign headquarters, and historical sites. Schools are also encouraged to let parents "check out" their students from school on Election Day (November 4, 2003) to accompany them as they vote.

PRESS ACTIVITIES

School journalism groups are encouraged to attend local or regional political events and press conferences and "cover" them for the school paper. School officials may want to contact local or state media organizations to see if there are any events that students may attend.

POLITICAL FORUMS

The School Coordinator should contact candidates and find out if there will be any forums in the area. The dates, times, and locations of those events should be made available to students, who could report their observations in class.

CREATE THE POLLING PLACE

The school's art department, drama group, or industrial shop could construct a realistic polling place as a set to be used on Mock Election Day. Students who do this design and construction should be allowed to examine the polling devices used by local election officials.

HOST AN IN-CHARACTER POLITICAL SPEAKING EVENT

Schools may host competitive speaking events for students, or invite "local celebrities" to deliver famous political speeches from the past. Some examples of famous speeches are Abraham Lincoln's "House Divided," Chief Joseph's "I Shall Fight No More Forever," Franklin Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms," and Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream.

STUDENT QUIZ BOWL

Have students/student groups compete against another in the Voter Education Quiz Bowl. Sample questions are available on the *Promote the Vote* section of the SOS website. The event could be styled like "Jeopardy" or "Who Wants to be a Millionaire."

"eXPRESS YOURSELF" ONLINE

The Secretary of State's Office has dedicated pages on its website to "Promote the Vote." Students will be encouraged to check the site regularly for downloads, links to political websites, events calendars and access to the "eXpress Yourself" Bulletin Board. The Bulletin Board will be a place for students to e-mail their comments about a given issue or event associated with the 2003 campaign and read the comments by other students in Mississippi. While the comments will be edited for length and appropriate language by SOS staff, it will be an honest, open exchange of ideas about and reactions to events of the 2003 campaign.

SPEECH, DEBATE, AND FORENSICS

Students may hold debates, either acting as "real" candidates or as representatives of particular sides of current issues. Their classmates may serve as judges.

One opportunity for students in grades 9-12 is the John C. Stennis Forensics Tournament held at Mississippi State University. *Promote the Vote* hosts a declamation activity as part of this tournament. "Declamation" is an activity where students deliver speeches written and delivered by others, usually notable figures in government and history. The theme of the declamation activity this year is "Veterans and Democracy." Students are asked to select, memorize, and deliver speeches by any author they choose, so long as the topic of the speech relates to the ideal of "Veterans and Democracy."

The John C. Stennis Forensics Tournament will be held on September 19-20 on the campus of Mississippi State University, and is open ONLY to NOVICE competitors, those students with little or no forensics experience. The Declamation event will be held on September 20 only. For more information on this event, please contact Mrs. Betty Whitlock (Clinton High School - 601-924-5656 after 2:45 P.M.).

POLLING PLACE STUDENT INTERN PROGRAM

The Mississippi Legislature passed a bill during its 2002 Regular Session authorizing local election commissions (county and municipal) to use high school students at least 16 years of age and meeting certain criteria as poll worker assistants on Election Day. This program in NOT mandated, but may be conducted by any election commission at its discretion. Contact your local circuit clerk to determine if such a program is in place in your area for the 2003 election. Contact information for clerks is located on page A-4. To review the legislation that created this program, please go to the following website: http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/2002/html/history/SB/SB2383.htm.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Local, county, and state election officials are often glad to speak with students of all ages about their jobs and the election process. Some officials who might make interesting speakers include: mayors, city council people or aldermen, county supervisors, county circuit clerks, and county election commissioners. Contact your city or county government to see if any of these officials would be willing to speak to your students.

The Secretary of State's Office is always happy to schedule visits by the Secretary or other office staff, when possible. Please contact the office at 601-359-1350 or 1-800-256-3494 and ask to speak with Rebecca Huston (or email at rhuston@sos.state.ms.us) about the possibility of scheduling a visit by the Secretary or his staff.

Promote the Vote
Mississippi 2003

Appendix to Official
Teacher's Guide

2003 STATEWIDE CANDIDATES

Please check the *Promote the Vote* website at www.sos.state.ms.us/ed_pubs/Educational/VoterEd for candidate campaign or party links.

Governor

Haley Barbour, Republican Party
Post Office Box 1499
Yazoo City, MS 39194
601-957-5818

John Thomas Cripps, Constitution Party
Post Office Box 1030
Wiggins, MS 39577

Sherman Lee Dillon, Green Party
Post Office Box 55604
Jackson, MS 39296

Ronnie Musgrove, Democratic Party
403 South State Street
Jackson, MS 39202
601-969-2003

Shawn O'Hara, Reform Party
Post Office Box 15275
Hattiesburg, MS 39404

Lieutenant Governor

Barbara Blackmon, Democratic Party
455 N. Lamar Street, Suite 100
Jackson, MS 39201
601-352-3802

Anna J. Reives, Reform Party
1815 Eva Street
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

Amy Tuck, Republican Party
Post Office Box 118
Jackson, MS 39205
601-362-6220

STATEWIDE CANDIDATES CONTINUED

Secretary of State

Brenda Blackburn, Reform Party
Post Office Box 18364
Hattiesburg, MS 39404

Eric Clark
Post Office Box 12113
Jackson, MS 39236
601-713-3450

Julio Del Castillo, Republican Party
4019 Redwing Avenue
Jackson, MS 39216-3219
601-982-8205

Attorney General

Jim Hood, Democratic Party
Post Office Box 16647
Jackson, MS 39236-6647
601-352-4663

Scott Newton, Republican Party
1060 E. County Line Road, Suite 3A-329
Ridgeland, MS 39157
601-957-2077

State Treasurer

Gary Anderson, Democratic Party
975 North Street, Suite 206
Jackson, MS 39202
601-969-1992

Lee Dilworth, Reform Party
Post Office Box 10511
Jackson, MS 39289
601-981-3878

Tate Reeves, Republican Party
Post Office Box 24355
Jackson, MS 39225-4355
601-624-4570

State Auditor

Billy Blackburn, Reform Party
Post Office Box 18364
Hattiesburg, MS 39402-8364

Phil Bryant, Republican Party
Post Office Box 5141
Brandon, MS 39047
601-668-0036

Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce

Bob Claunch, Reform Party
67163 Diamondhead Drive East
Diamondhead, MS 39525

Max Phillips, Republican Party
Post Office Box 335
Taylorsville, MS 39168
601-785-6567

Lester Spell, Democratic Party
Post Office Box 180037
Richland MS 39218

Commissioner of Insurance

George Dale, Democratic Party
Post Office Box 2618
Jackson, MS 39215

Aaron "Lucky" DuPuy III, Republican Party
5900 Kristen Drive
Jackson, MS 39211-2832
601-977-9731

Barbara Dale Washer, Reform Party
1222 Beverly Hills Road, Apt. #3
Hattiesburg, MS 39401-4438

VOTER REGISTRARS (COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERKS) IN MISSISSIPPI

COUNTY NAME	PHONE NUMBER	COUNTY NAME	PHONE NUMBER
Adams	601-446-6326	Leflore	662-453-1435
Alcorn	662-286-7740	Lincoln	601-835-3435
Amite	601-657-8932	Lowndes	662-329-5900
Attala	662-289-1471	Madison	601-352-2049
Benton	662-224-6310	Marion	601-736-8246
Bolivar	662-843-2061	Marshall	662-252-3434
Calhoun	662-412-3101	Monroe	662-369-8695
Carroll	662-464-5476	Montgomery	662-283-4161
Chickasaw	662-456-2331	Neshoba	601-656-4781
Choctaw	662-285-6245	Newton	601-635-2368
Claiborne	601-437-5841	Noxubee	662-726-5737
Clarke	601-776-3111	Oktibbeha	662-323-1356
Clay	662-494-3384	Panola	662-563-6210
Coahoma	662-624-3014	Pearl River	601-795-4911
Copiah	601-894-1241	Perry	601-964-8663
Covington	601-765-6506	Pike	601-783-2581
DeSoto	662-429-1325	Pontotoc	662-489-3908
Forrest	601-582-3213	Prentiss	662-728-4611
Franklin	601-384-2320	Quitman	662-326-8003
George	601-947-4881	Rankin	601-825-1466
Greene	601-394-2379	Scott	601-469-3601
Grenada	662-226-1941	Sharkey	662-873-2755
Hancock	228-467-5265	Simpson	601-847-2474
Harrison	228-865-4051	Smith	601-782-4751
Hinds	601-968-6628	Stone	601-928-5246
Holmes	662-834-2476	Sunflower	662-887-1252
Humphreys	662-247-3065	Tallahatchie	662-647-8758
Issaquena	662-873-2761	Tate	662-562-5211
Itawamba	662-862-3511	Tippah	662-837-7370
Jackson	228-769-3040	Tishomingo	662-423-7026
Jasper	601-764-2245	Tunica	662-363-2842
Jefferson	601-786-3422	Union	662-534-1910
Jefferson Davis	601-792-4231	Walthall	601-876-5677
Jones	601-425-2556	Warren	601-636-3961
Kemper	601-743-2224	Washington	662-378-2747
Lafayette	662-234-4951	Wayne	601-735-1171
Lamar	601-794-8504	Webster	662-258-6287
Lauderdale	601-482-9731	Wilkinson	601-888-6697
Lawrence	601-587-4791	Winston	662-773-3581
Leake	601-267-8357	Yalobusha	662-473-1341
Lee	662-841-9024	Yazoo	662-746-1872

WHERE I LIVE

This activity is focused on helping students understand that their community is a part of a bigger, global community. Students will do this by finding where they live in the county, state, nation, continent, and in the world. Included in this lesson are World, North America, America, and Mississippi maps. The Mississippi maps detail congressional districts as well as counties.

Beginning with the most comprehensive map, (world) have student color where they live on each map.

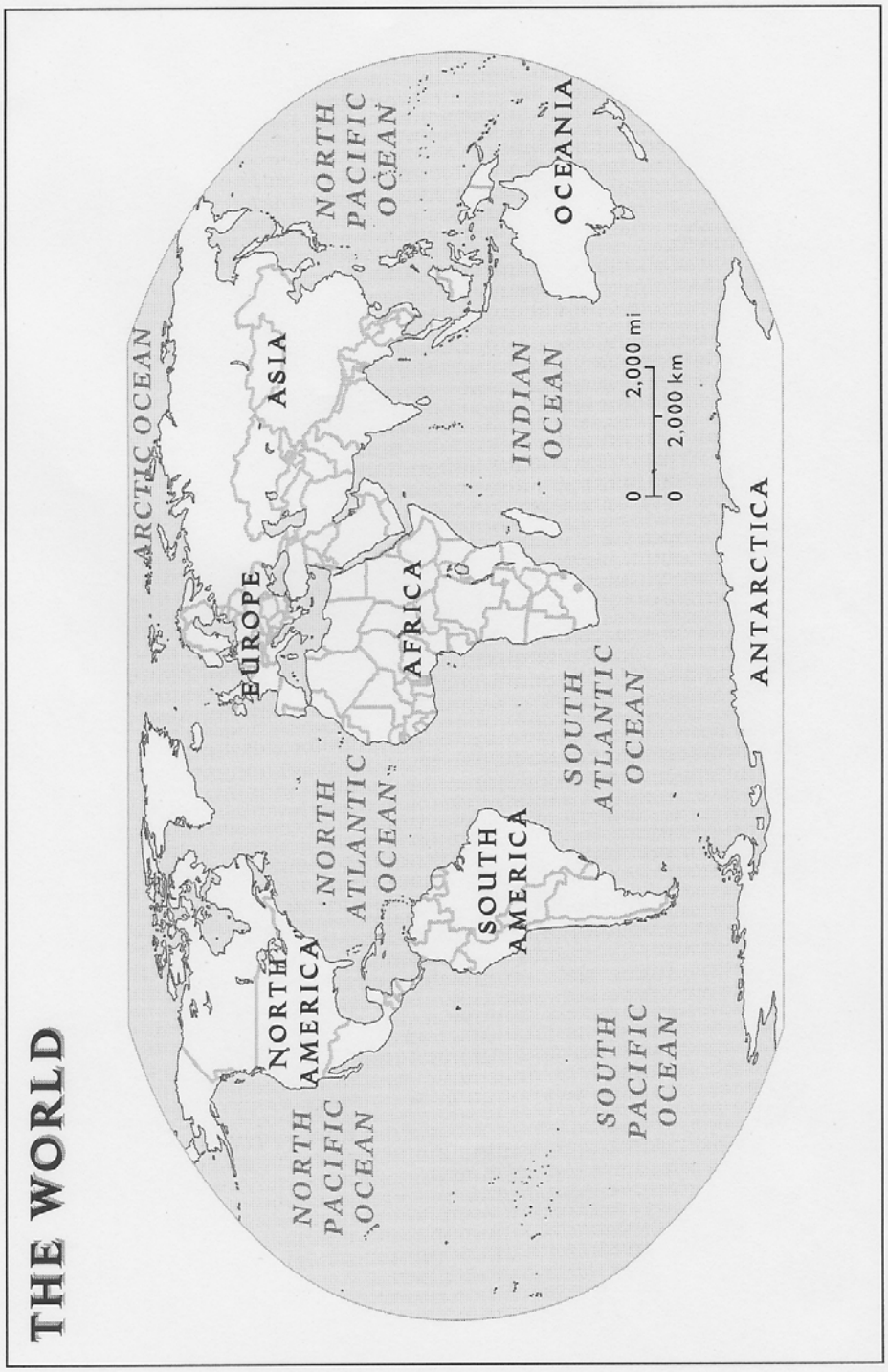
- On the world map students should identify and color their continent, North America.
- On the map of the North American Continent, students should identify and color their country (U.S.).
- On the U.S. map, students should identify and color their state (Mississippi).
- On the Mississippi map students should be instructed to color their county, congressional district, and place a symbol (star, diamond, etc.) to indicate the location of their city or community.

MAPS INCLUDED IN THIS LESSON:

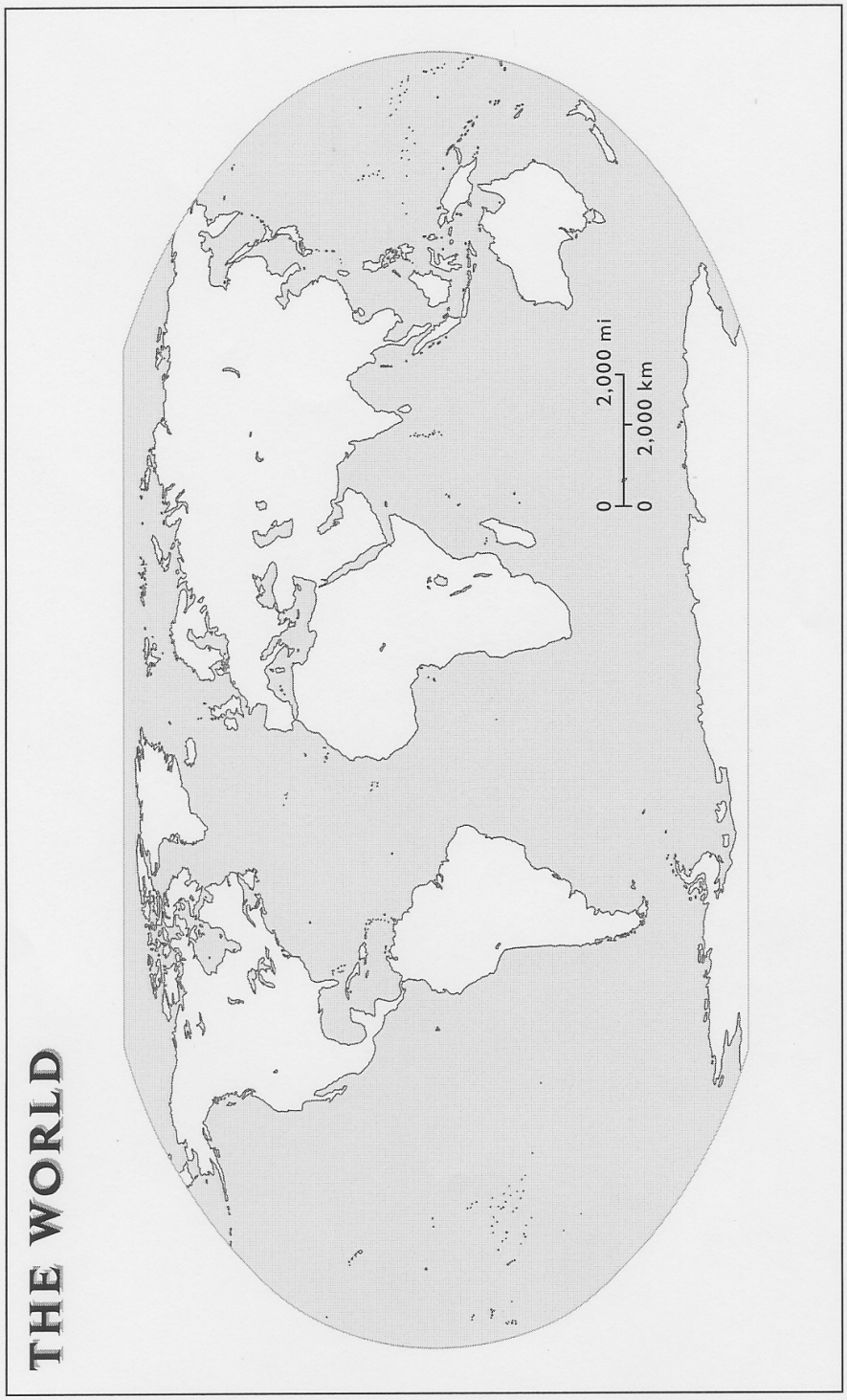
WORLD MAP (DETAILED)
WORLD MAP (PLAIN)
NORTH AMERICA (DETAILED)
NORTH AMERICA (PLAIN)
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (DETAILED)
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (STATE DETAILED)
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (PLAIN)
MISSISSIPPI (DETAILED)
MISSISSIPPI (PLAIN)
MISSISSIPPI CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (DETAILED)
MISSISSIPPI COUNTY (DETAILED)

Note: All maps with the exception of the Mississippi Congressional and County maps came from the National Geographic website at http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/atlas/.

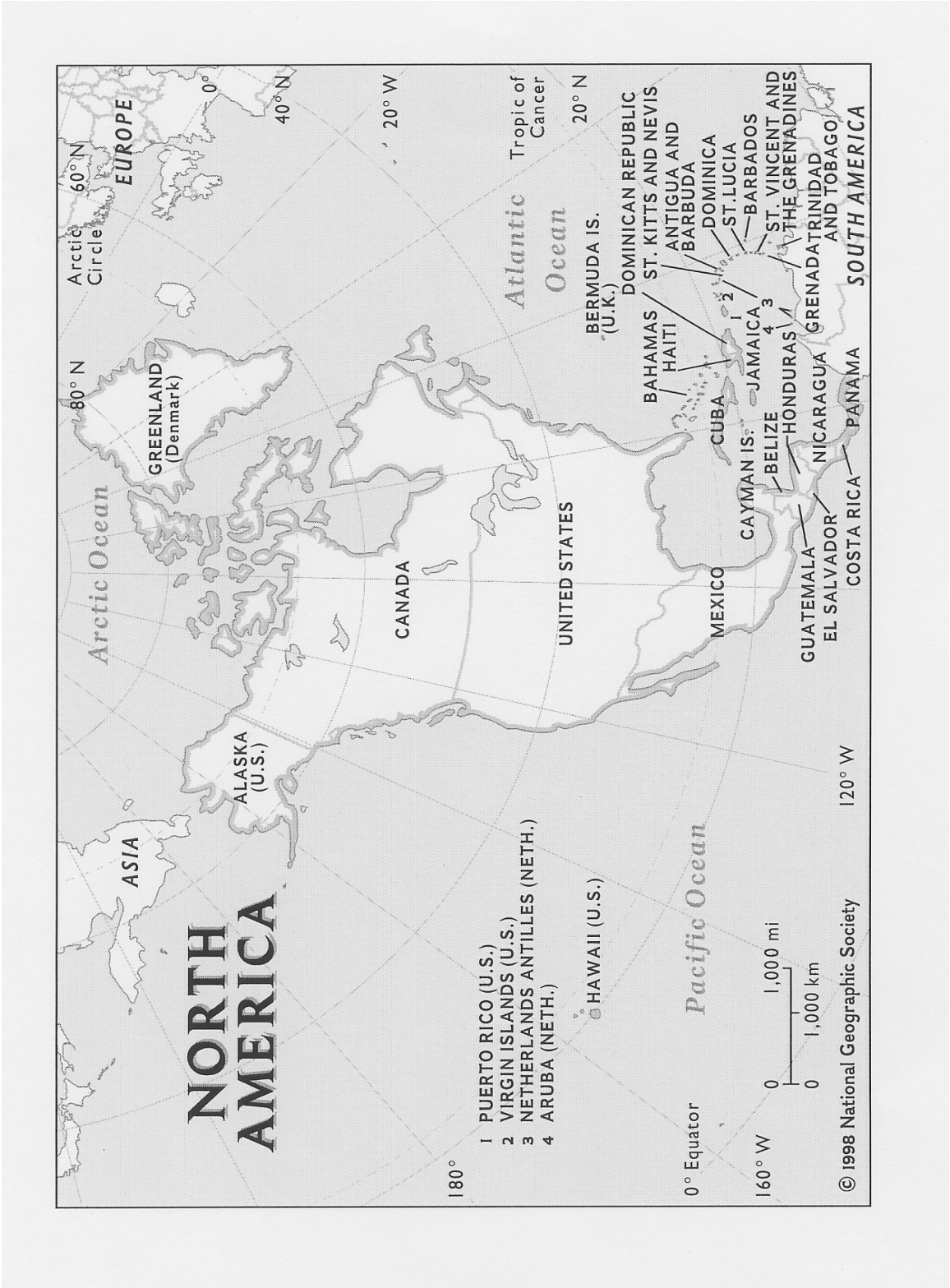
WORLD (DETAILED)



WORLD (PLAIN)

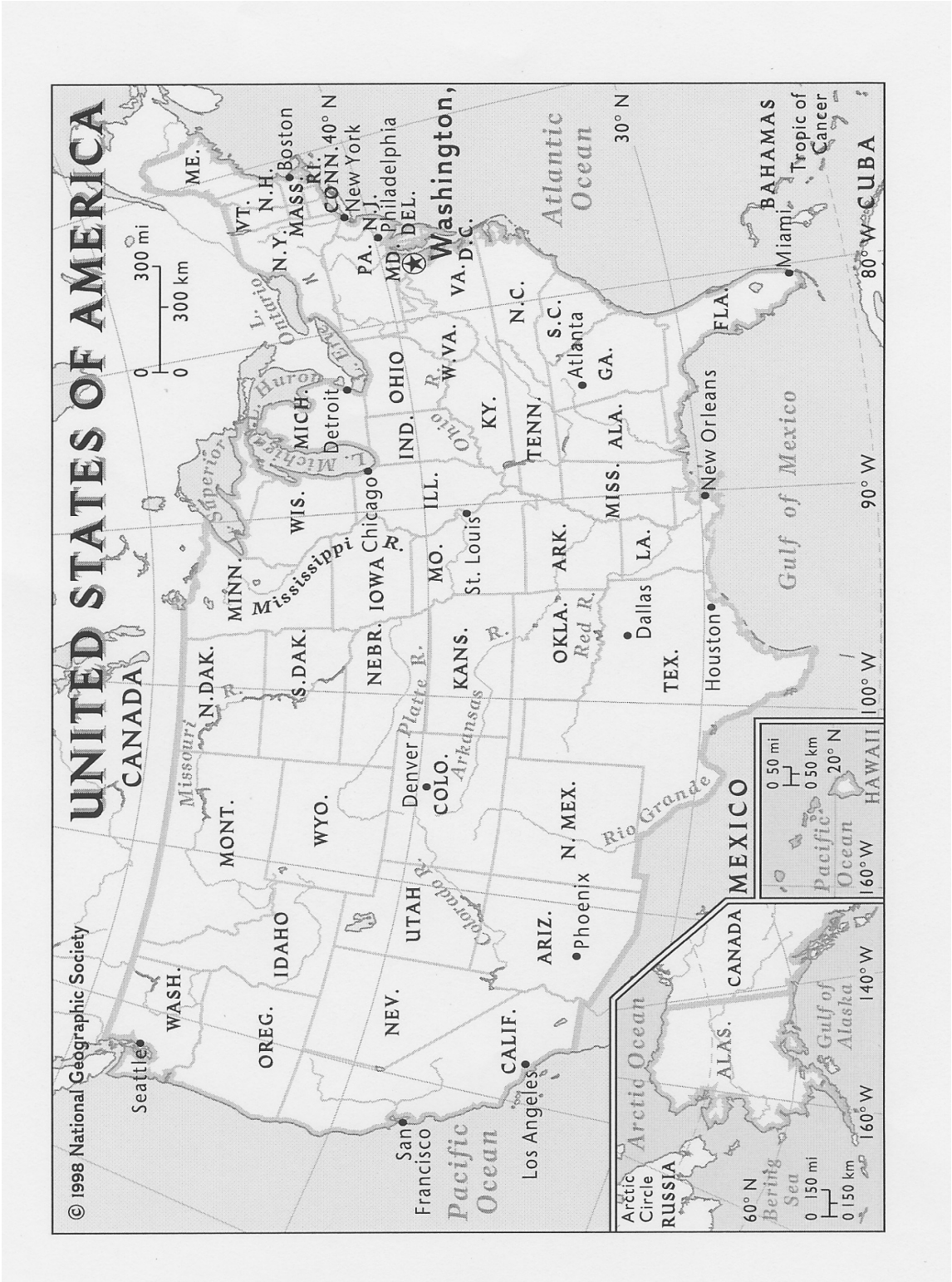


NORTH AMERICA (DETAILED)

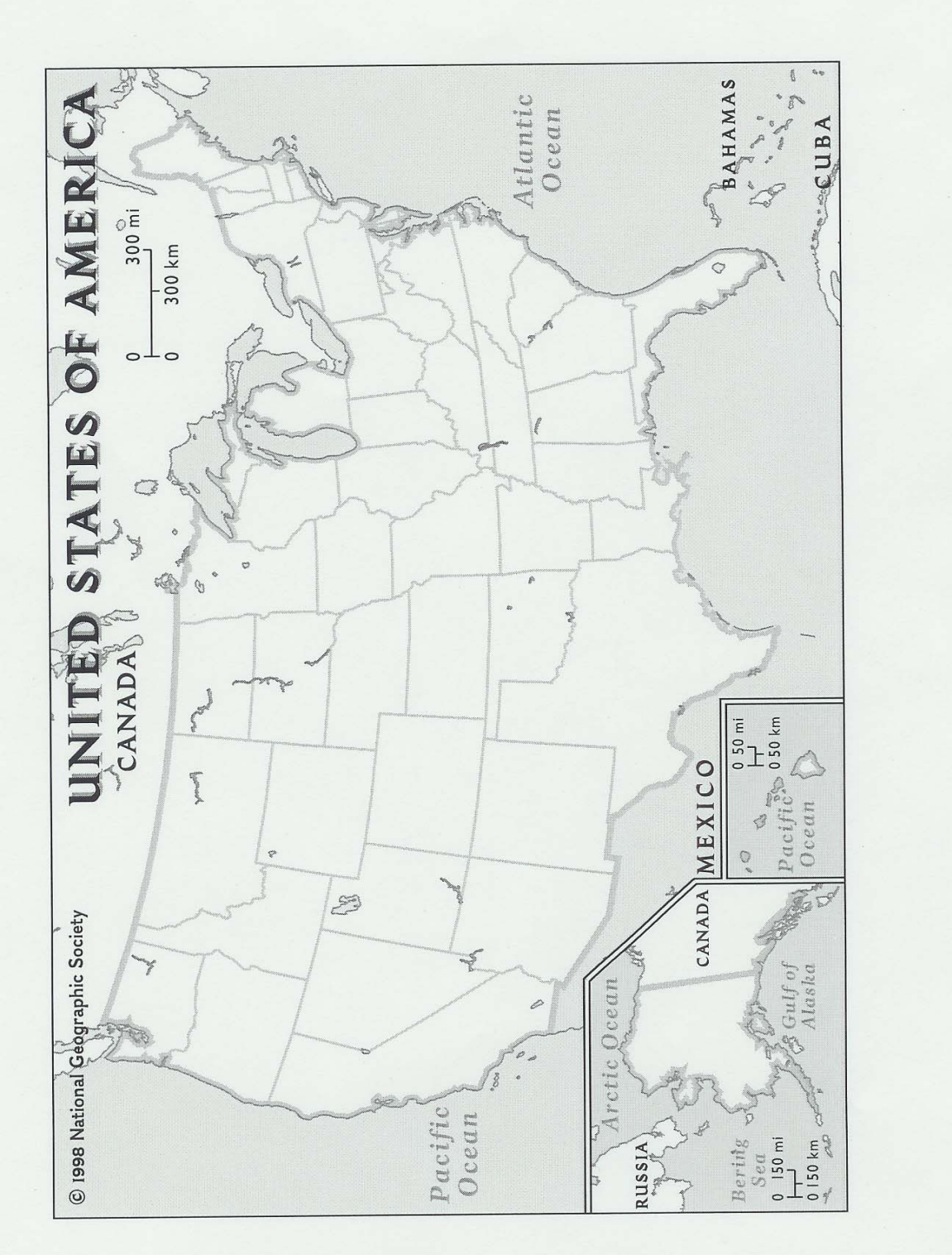


NORTH AMERICA (PLAIN)

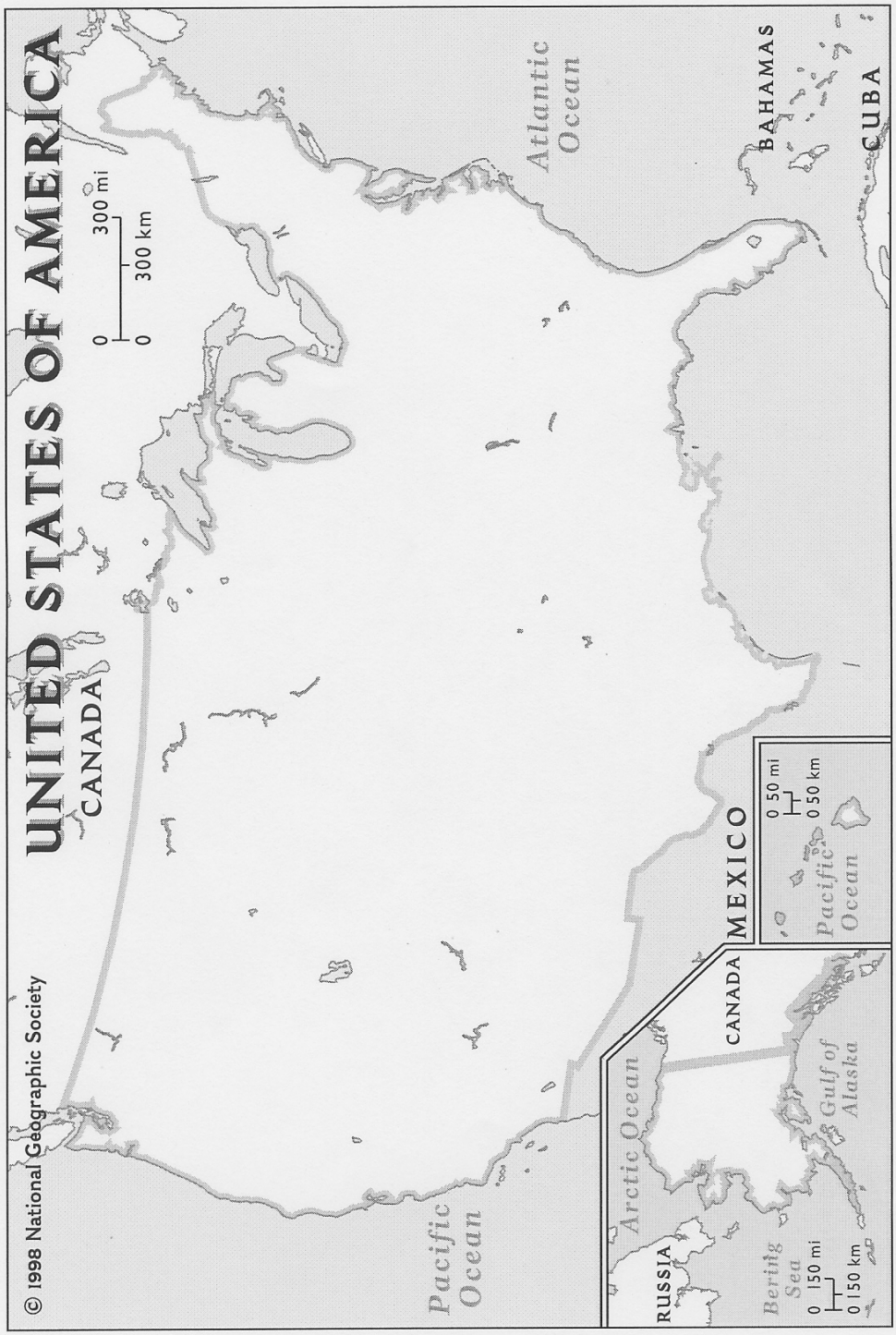
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (DETAILED)



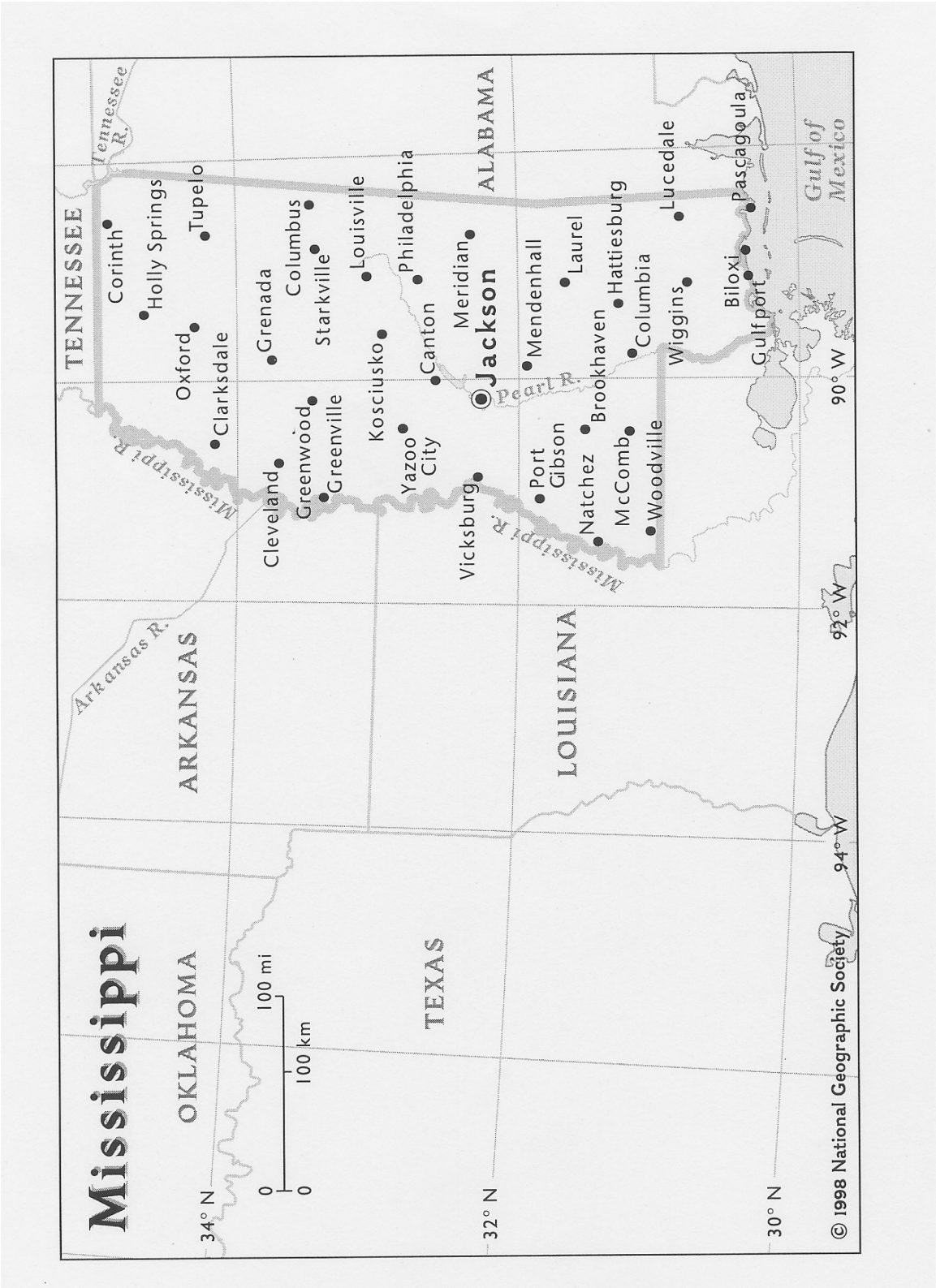
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (STATE DETAILED)



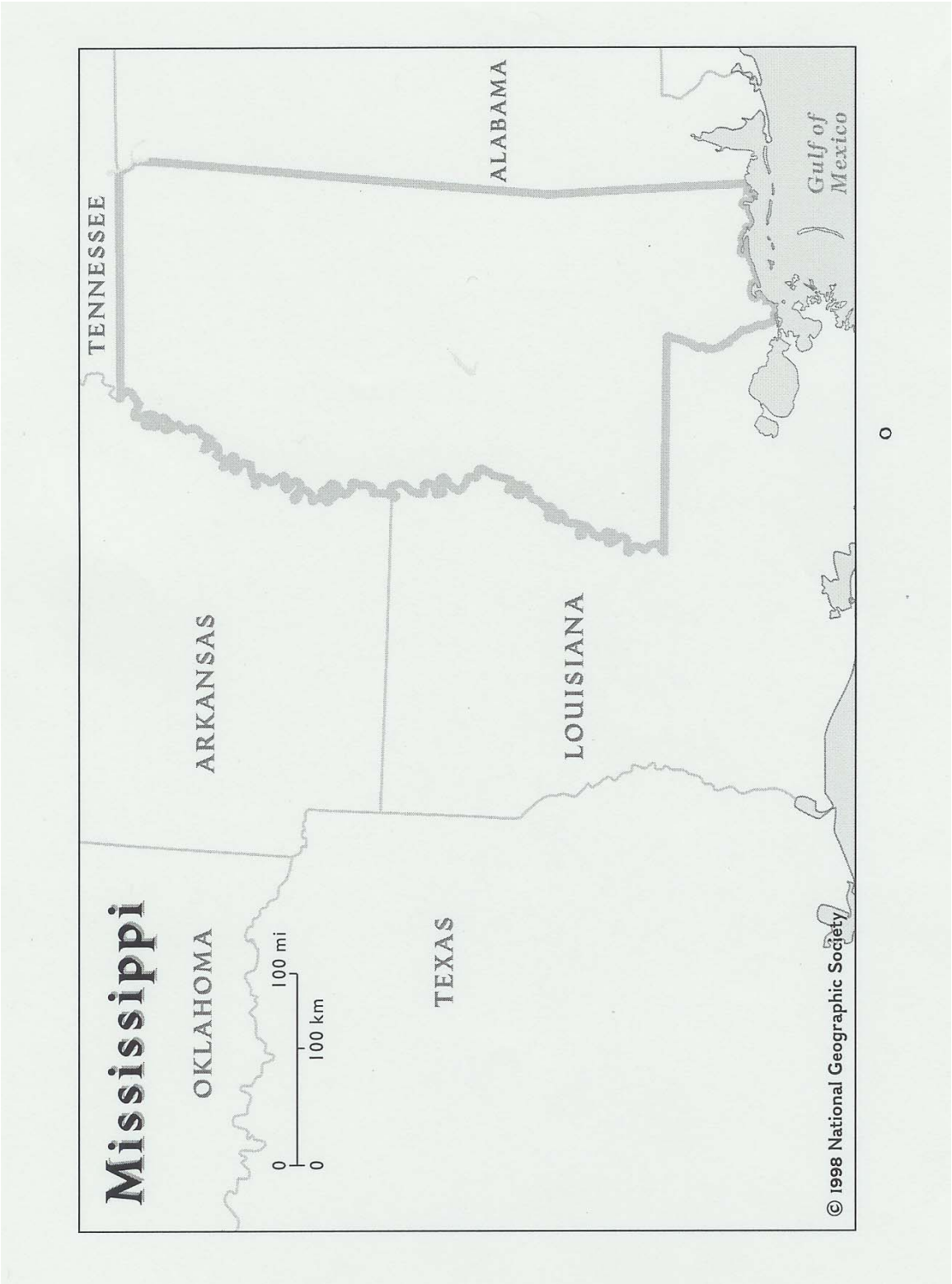
UNITED STATES (PLAIN)



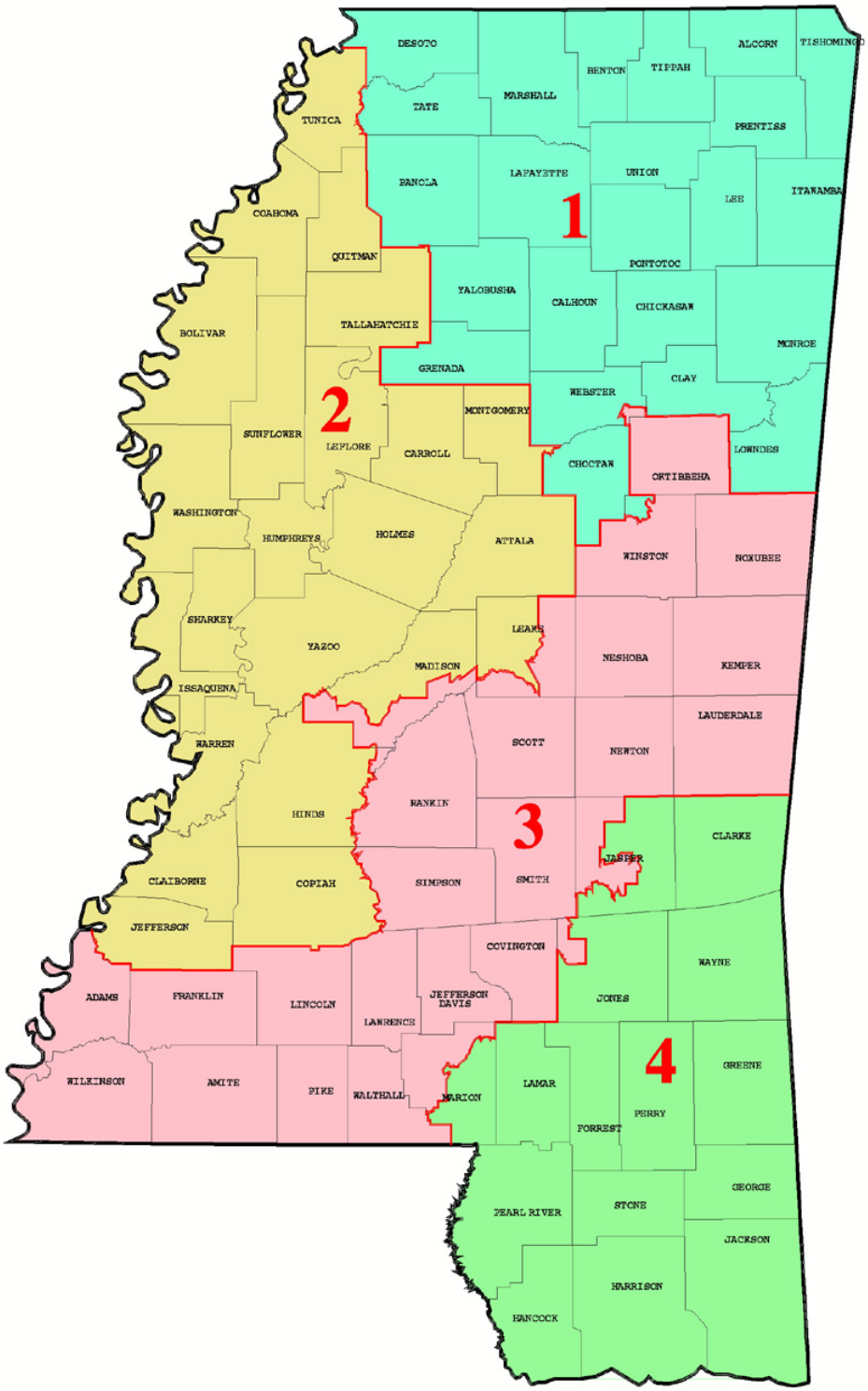
MISSISSIPPI (DETAILED)



MISSISSIPPI (PLAIN)



MISSISSIPPI CONGRESSIONAL MAP



For more information on redistricting maps, please go to the web site of the Mississippi Legislature's Standing Joint Congressional Redistricting Committee at *www.msjrc.state.ms.us*.

MISSISSIPPI COUNTY MAP

WHO WILL REPRESENT ME?

2003 STATEWIDE OFFICES

Good citizens are informed voters. This activity is designed to help students identify the candidates running for offices in the 2003 Elections and consider their qualifications as they relate to the duties and requirements of the respective offices.

Complete the chart by

- **Identifying the candidates vying for the statewide offices in this election**
- **Researching campaign literature and recording candidates qualifications**

Compare the duties and office requirements with the candidates' qualifications.

Governor

Duties: The Governor is the Chief Executive Officer of the state, charged with executive direction and supervision of the general administration of the State. In this capacity, he or she sees that the laws are faithfully executed, supervises the official conduct of executive officers, acts as commander-in-chief of the state militia, and appoints officials as prescribed by law. He or she is responsible for the presentation of a balanced budget to the Legislature, and approval or veto of legislation passed by the Legislature. He or she may call extraordinary sessions of the Legislature when he or she deems it necessary, and may issue pardons, executive orders, and extraditions of fugitives from other states.
The office provides staff assistance and liaison in all areas of state government administration and researches agency programs and policies. The Governor appoints a number of officers.

Requirements: A qualified elector, at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States 20 years, and a resident of the state five years next preceding the day of election. Fee for party candidates: $300 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee. Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 1,000. No fee required.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Lieutenant Governor

Duties: In addition to the Governor, the Mississippi Constitution makes provision for a Lieutenant Governor who acts as president of the state Senate. The Lieutenant Governor presides over the Senate, rules on points of order, appoints standing committees of the Senate, appoints all select and conference committees as ordered by the Senate, and refers all bills. He or she serves as a member of the Senate Rules and Joint Legislative Budget Committees, votes only in cases of ties and speaks from the floor while the Senate is in Committee of the Whole, and signs all finally approved bills and resolutions. The Lieutenant governor serves a term of four years and may be re-elected for an additional term.

Requirements: Same as required of the Governor. Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee. Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 1,000. No fee required.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Secretary of State

Duties: The Secretary of State directs a service and information agency with six major statutory functions: administration of the Mississippi Corporation Law, The Uniform Commercial Code, the Uniform Securities Law, and the Elections Code; administration and supervision of the 16th Section School Trust Lands, the Tidelands Trust, lieu lands, and tax-forfeited property; and issuing documents and publications of the state, including those for the executive and legislative branches. Investigating charity and securities fraud, enforcing campaign finance and lobbyist reporting requirements, issuing notary commissions, registering correspondence schools, administering the state's trademark and service mark laws, service of process, and administering the Administrative Procedures Act are also functions of the Secretary of State's Office. The Constitution designates the Secretary of State as the "keeper of the capitol." The Secretary of State is elected to a four-year term and may be re-elected.

Requirements: A qualified elector, at least 25 years old, and a citizen of the state five years next preceding the day of election. Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee. 1,000 signatures are required for Independent candidates. No fee required.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Attorney General

Duties: The Attorney General is the chief legal officer and advisor for the State with responsibility to serve as lawyer for the State, its public officials, and governmental agencies. The Attorney General has the sole power under Mississippi law to bring or defend a lawsuit on behalf of the State. He or she is also empowered to act as counsel to state agencies and to defend them or bring suit on their behalf, either in person or through assistants. The Attorney General employs a staff of attorneys, investigators, and office personnel, chosen because of legal talents or other skills. The major divisions and sections of this office are Civil and Criminal Litigation, Opinion Procession, Governmental Affairs, White Collar Crime, and Public Advocacy, consisting of Consumer Protection, Medicaid Fraud, Child Protection, and Drug Prevention. The Attorney General is elected to a four-year term and may be re-elected.

Requirements: A qualified elector, a practicing attorney for five years, at least 26 years old, and a citizen of the state five years. Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee. Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 1,000. No fee required.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

State Auditor

Duties: The State Auditor has major responsibilities in the areas of maintaining the State's accounting system; auditing all state agencies, county governments, county school districts, junior colleges and universities; conducting investigations into abuse of public funds and violations of law; prescribing systems of accounting and financial reporting for local governments; conducting inventory audits of all state property and maintaining the inventory of all state property; and performing average daily attendance (ADA) counts in the state's public schools. The State Auditor is elected to a four-year term and may be re-elected.

Requirements: A qualified elector, at least 25 years old, and a citizen of the state five years next preceding the day of election. Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee. 1,000 signatures are required for Independent candidates. No fee required.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

State Treasurer

Duties: The State Treasurer keeps fiscal records concerning receipts, deposits, and disbursements of all public funds of the State, including federal funds, which are deposited into the State Treasury. This office maintains official and current records of Mississippi's bonded indebtedness and is responsible for making all payments of principal and interest due on these bonds. The Treasurer invests state funds which are in excess of operating requirements, maintains accounts adequate to pay for State warrants, and serves as custodian for securities held by the State for other state agencies. The agency has recently begun maintenance of the Unclaimed Property Program and administers the MPACT Program. The Treasurer serves as a member of the State Bond Commission, Public Employees' Retirement Board, Mississippi Business Finance Corporation, Development Bank Board, License Tag Commission, Mississippi Home Corporation, Tort Claims Board, Economic Development Strategic Planning Task Force, State Prison Emergency and Management Board, Mississippi Educational Facilities Authority for Private Nonprofit Institutions of Higher Learning (MEFA), and the Historic Properties Trust Fund Advisory Committee. The Treasurer is elected to a four-year term and may be re-elected.

Requirements: A qualified elector, at least 25 years old, and a citizen of the state five years next preceding the day of election. Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee. 1,000 signatures are required for Independent candidates. No fee required.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce

Duties: Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce manages the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, which was created in 1906 by the Mississippi Legislature to foster and promote the business of agriculture. The Department performs regulatory functions in the areas of sanitary inspection in grocery stores; aquaculture inspection for all non-native species of fish and gamefish for stocking and food consumption purposes; agricultural theft; meat, fruit, and vegetable inspection; swine health protection; feed, seed, fertilizer, and soil and plant amendment inspection; weights and measures; inspection of exotic birds; public grain warehouse inspection; grain inspection and weighing; pulpwood measurement; insect and plant disease inspection and quarantine; pesticide inspection; inspection of manufacturing grade dairy farms and manufacturing milk plants; egg inspection; rendering plant inspection; syrup labeling inspection; honey and honey product labeling inspection; and catfish and catfish product labeling inspection.

Requirements: A qualified elector with a general knowledge of agriculture, mining, manufacturing, statistics, and general industries and an experienced and practical agriculturist. Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee. Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 1,000. No fee required.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Insurance Commissioner

Duties: The Insurance Commissioner is charged with execution of all laws relative to all insurance companies, corporations, associations or orders, and their agents and adjusters. In performance of this charge, he or she licenses and regulates practices of all insurance companies, burial associations, fraternal societies, and associations of all types, including motor clubs, bail bondsmen and their agents, insurance agencies, and adjusters. The Commissioner licenses manufacturers and dealers of mobile homes and regulates their practices, including inspecting their manufacturing techniques and standards. The office enforces the liquefied compressed gas inspection program. The State's standard fire code is administered by the Commissioner through the Department's State Fire Marshal Division. The Commissioner also serves as State Fire Marshal and Chairman of the State Fire Academy.

Requirements: A qualified elector, at least 25 years old, and a citizen of the state five years next preceding the day of election. Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee. Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 1,000. No fee required.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

WHO WILL REPRESENT ME?

2003 STATEWIDE LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES

Complete the chart by

- **Identifying your House and Senate districts**
- **Identifying the candidates vying to be your districts' representatives**
- **Researching campaign literature and recording candidates qualifications**

Compare the duties and office requirements with the candidates' qualifications.

Mississippi Legislative Branch

The Mississippi Legislature is made up of a Senate and a House of Representatives. At present, there are 52 senators and 122 representatives.

State Senator

District # _____

Duties: The state Constitution places law-making authority in the Legislature which also has the power of the purse, a constitutional provision that no money can be spent from the state's treasury unless the Legislature passes a law to do so. In addition, the Senate has advice and consent over appointments made by the governor. The power of impeachment is vested solely in the House; the power to try impeachment lies in the Senate.

Requirements: A qualified elector of the state four years, at least 25 years old, and an actual resident of the district or territory represented for two years before the election. Fee for party candidates: $15. For single county and multi-county districts, made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee. Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 50. No fee required. For multi-county districts, submit certified petition to Secretary of State. For single county districts, submit to appropriate Circuit Clerk.

Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

State House Representative

District # ☐

Duties:
The state Constitution places law-making authority in the Legislature which also has the power of the purse, a constitutional provision that no money can be spent from the state's treasury unless the Legislature passes a law to do so. In addition, the power of impeachment is vested solely in the House; the power to try impeachment lies in the Senate. The House has the duty to elect the governor if no candidate receives a majority of both the popular vote and the electoral vote in the general election.

Requirements: A qualified elector and resident citizen of the state four years, at least 21 years old, and a resident of the county or district represented for two years before the election. Fee for party candidates: $15. For single county and multi-county districts, made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee. Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 50. No fee required. For multi-county districts, submit certified petition to Secretary of State. For single county districts, submit to appropriate Circuit Clerk.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

WHO WILL REPRESENT ME?

2003 COUNTYWIDE OFFICES

Complete the chart by

- **Identifying your respective countywide districts.**
- **Identifying the candidates vying to be your districts' representatives or countywide officials.**
- **Researching campaign literature and recording candidates qualifications**

Compare the duties and office requirements with the candidates' qualifications.
County District Offices

Constable

District # ☐

Duties:
County Constables shall keep and preserve the peace within his county, by aiding and assisting in executing the criminal laws of the state for the Justice Courts of his district. Constables shall obey all lawful orders and execute all judgments for Justice Courts within this district.

Requirements:
A Constable must be a qualified elector in the county and district in which election is sought. The qualifying fee is $10.

Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications
Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications

Justice Court Judge

District # ☐

Duties: Justice Court Judges shall have civil and criminal jurisdiction of all actions where the principal of the debt, amount of the demand, or the value of the property sought to be recovered shall not exceed $2,500.

Requirements:
A Justice Court Judge must be a qualified elector, a resident of the county and district for (2) two years preceding the day of election, and complete course of training required by law within (6) six months of the beginning of the term of office. The qualifying fee is $10.

Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications
Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications

Chancery Clerk

Duties:
The Chancery Clerk is elected to a four-year term and may run for re-election. The Chancery Clerk is the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and of the Chancery Court. The Clerk is responsible for maintaining the records of both the Board and the Court.

Requirements:
These officers must be qualified electors of the county in which election is sought. The qualifying fee is $15.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Circuit Clerk

Duties:
The Circuit Clerk is elected to a four-year term and may run for re-election. The Clerk is the chief officer of the Circuit Court and chief elections officer of the county. The Clerk maintains the voter rolls and assists the Election Commissioners in purging the voter rolls, and assists election officials to conducting primary and general elections.

Requirements:
These officers must be qualified electors of the county in which election is sought. The qualifying fee is $15.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Tax Assessor

Duties:
The Tax Assessor and/or Collector may serve in both capacities in all counties. This official is elected to a four-year term and may run for re-election. The Assessor's role is to maintain the personal, real and ad valorem tax rolls of the county.

Requirements:
These officers must be qualified electors of the county in which election is sought. The qualifying fee is $15.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Tax Collector

Duties:
The Tax Assessor and/or Collector may serve in both capacities in all counties. This official is elected to a four-year term and may run for re-election. The Collector is responsible for keeping the records of tax payments and depositing the money in the county treasury.

Requirements:
These officers must be qualified electors of the county in which election is sought. The qualifying fee is $15.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Coroner

Duties:
The Coroner is elected to a four-year term and may run for re-election. The Coroner is the chief county medical examiner and/or county medical examiner investigator. This official is responsible for issuing declarations of death and performing or reporting results of autopsies in cases requiring such action.

Requirements:
The Coroner must be a qualified elector, at least 21 years of age, of the county in which election is sought. The qualifying fee is $10.

Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

County Prosecutor

Duties:
The county prosecuting attorney represents the state in all investigations for felony in justice court and county court and in all criminal cases appealed to the circuit court from county court. The county prosecutor may assist the district attorney, present matters to the county grand jury, and in some youth court proceedings. The county attorney is elected to a four-year term and may run for re-election.

Requirements:
County Prosecuting Attorney must be a qualified elector and a regular licensed and practicing attorney. The qualifying fee is $15.

Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications
Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications

Sheriff

Duties:
The sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer of the county and is elected to a four-year term. He may run for re-election. The sheriff is the chief officer of the chancery and circuit courts and maintains the county law library. The sheriff is in charge of the county courthouse, jail, and protection of prisoners.

Requirements:
The sheriff must not be a defaulter to the State or any county or municipality or to the United States and a qualified elector. The qualifying fee is $15.

Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications
Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications

County Surveyor

Duties:
The county surveyor executes all orders of survey directed to him by any court, all surveys of land within his county, at the request of the owners or proprietors, and to survey, resurvey, measure, and divide land as requested by the county board of supervisors.

Requirements:
The County Surveyor must be a registered land surveyor and a qualified elector of the county in which election is sought.

Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Superintendent of Education
County School Districts, which lie wholly within a county, are not constituted as either form of consolidated or municipal district. Superintendents of Education in county districts are elected with the exception of Hinds County.

Duties:
The Miss. Code Ann., 1972 provides for a county superintendent of education to be in each county. The superintendent is elected for a term of four years and may seek re-election. The Superintendent of Education is the chief administrative officer of the school district. The superintendent serves as the executive secretary of the county board of education, but has no vote in the proceedings before the board and no voice in fixing its policies. The superintendent is the director of all schools in the county outside the municipal separate school districts.

Requirements:
A Superintendent of Education must be a qualified elector, the holder of a valid Class AA Administrator's certificate issued by the State Department of Education, and not less than four years of classroom and/or administrative experience.

Candidate	Candidate's Qualifications
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

<u>Other</u> **Duties:** **Requirements:**	
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**
Candidate	**Candidate's Qualifications**

Educational Background and Experience include:	As your candidate for I pledge to:	**VOTE** **for** _____ **for the** ***Office* of** _____ Insert your picture here
_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	

The Office of **_____** **include** **the following duties:** • _____ _____ • _____ _____ • _____ _____ • _____ _____ **I am *committed* to upholding these duties if elected to this office!**	**Honest.** **Dependable.** **Committed.** **Honorable.** **Fair.** **Impartial.** **Tough.** **That's who** ***I AM!***	**Community Commitment:** • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ • _____ **I'm a lifelong resident of** **_____** **and will do everything in my power to serve the citizens in a manner worthy of respect. I appreciate your support and your vote!** **Please vote for** ***ME*** **Tuesday, November 4th!**

Insert your picture here.

Educational Background and Experience include:

- _____
  _____
- _____
  _____
- _____
  _____

As your candidate for

_____

I pledge to:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

I appreciate your support and your vote!

Please remember to VOTE for ME!

Tuesday, November 4, 2003.

Insert Picture here.

I, _____,

am seeking the office of

_____.

AND I NEED

YOUR VOTE

ON

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2003!

I appreciate your support!

Front

The Office of

_____

include

the following duties:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

I am *committed* to upholding these duties if elected to this office!

I am a life long resident of

_____, MS.

If elected to office, I promise to do everything it takes to make the RIGHT things happen!

If elected to office, my commitment to you is:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Back

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT MISSISSIPPI ELECTIONS

QUALIFICATIONS AND FEES FOR ELECTIVE OFFICES
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI 2003

STATEWIDE

GOVERNOR

Qualifications: A qualified elector, at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States 20 years, and a resident of the state five years next preceding the day of election. Miss. Const. of 1890, art. V, §117 and art. XII, §250.

Fee for party candidates: $300 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 1,000. No fee required.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Qualifications: Same as required of the Governor. Miss. Const. of 1890, art. V, §128 and art. XII, § 250.

Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 1,000. No fee required.

SECRETARY OF STATE, AUDITOR, TREASURER, INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Qualifications: A qualified elector, at least 25 years old, and a citizen of the state five years next preceding the day of election. Miss. Const. of 1890, art. V, §§133 and 134 and art. XII, §250; Miss. Code Ann., §83-1-3 (1972).

Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 1,000. No fee required.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Qualifications: A qualified elector, a practicing attorney for five years, at least 26 years old, and a citizen of the state five years. Miss. Const. of 1890, art. VI, §173 and art. XII, §250.

Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 1,000. No fee required.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE

Qualifications: A qualified elector with a general knowledge of agriculture, mining, manufacturing, statistics, and general industries and an experienced and practical agriculturist. Miss. Code Ann., §69-1-1 (1972); Miss. Const. of 1890, art. XII, §250.

Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 1,000. No fee required.

STATE DISTRICT

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER

Qualifications: A qualified elector, at least 25 years old, a resident of the Supreme Court district in which he/she seeks election, and a citizen of the state five years preceding the day of election. Miss. Code Ann., §77-1-1 (1972); Miss. Const. of 1890, art. VII, §186 and art. XII, §250.

Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 300. No fee required.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER

Qualifications: A qualified elector and a resident of the Supreme Court district in which he/she seeks election. Miss. Code Ann., §65-1-3 (1972).

Fee for party candidates: $200 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 300. No fee required.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Qualifications: A qualified elector of the district and a practicing attorney admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Mississippi for two years. Miss. Code Ann., §25-31-1 (1972).

Fee for party candidates: $100 made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 100. No fee required.

STATE LEGISLATORS

SENATOR

Qualifications: A qualified elector of the state four years, at least 25 years old, and an actual resident of the district or territory represented for two years before the election. Miss. Const. of 1890, art. IV, §42.

Fee for party candidates: $15. For single county and multi-county districts, made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 50. No fee required. For multi-county districts, submit certified petition to Secretary of State. For single county districts, submit to appropriate Circuit Clerk.

REPRESENTATIVE

Qualifications: A qualified elector and resident citizen of the state four years, at least 21 years old, and a resident of the county or district represented for two years before the election. Miss. Const. of 1890, art. IV, §41.

Fee for party candidates: $15. For single county and multi-county districts, made payable to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 50. No fee required. For multi-county districts, submit certified petition to Secretary of State. For single county districts, submit to appropriate Circuit Clerk.

COUNTYWIDE

SHERIFF

Qualifications: Not a defaulter to the state or any county or municipality or to the United States and a qualified elector. Miss. Code Ann., §19-25-3 (1972). Miss. Const. of 1890, art. V, §§135, and 138.

Fee for party candidates: $15 made payable to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 50. No fee required.

CHANCERY CLERK, CIRCUIT CLERK, TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR

Qualifications: A qualified elector of the county in which he/she seeks election. Miss. Const. of 1890, art. V §§135, and 138; art. VI, §168; art. XII, §250.

Fee for party candidates: Same as for sheriff.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 50. No fee required.

SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

Qualifications: A qualified elector, the holder of a valid Administrator's license issued by the State Department of Education, and not less than four years of classroom and or administrative experience. Miss. Code Ann., §37-9-13 (1972); Miss. Const. of 1890, art. VIII, §§202, 203, and 204; art. XII, §250.

Fee for party candidates: Same as for sheriff.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 50. No fee required.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Qualifications: A qualified elector and a regular licensed and practicing attorney. Miss. Code Ann., §19-23-1 et seq. (1972).

Fee for party candidates: same as for Sheriff.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 50. No fee required.

SURVEYOR

Qualifications: A registered land surveyor and a qualified elector of the county in which he/she seeks election. Miss. Code Ann., §19-27-1 (1972); Miss. Const. of 1890, art. V §§135 and 138; art. XII, §250.

Fee for party candidates: $10 made payable to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 50. No fee required.

CORONER

Qualifications: A qualified elector, at least 21 years of age, possessing a high school diploma or its equivalent, of the county in which he/she seeks election. The minimum education requirement shall not apply to any Coroner holding office on July 1, 1986, who is re-elected in the 1987 general election and thereafter as long as he/she maintains continuous active service. Miss. Code Ann., §19-21-103 (1972); Miss. Const. of 1890, art. V, §§135, and 138; art. XII, §250.

Fee for party candidates: $10 made payable to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 50. No fee required.

COUNTY DISTRICT

SUPERVISOR

Qualifications: A qualified elector of the county and a resident in the district in which he/she seeks election. Miss. Code Ann.,, §19-3-3 (1972); Miss. Const. of 1890, art. XII, §250; Williams v. Adams County Board of Election Commissioners, 608 F Supp. 599 (1985).

Fee for party candidates: $15 made payable to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 15. No fee required.

JUSTICE COURT JUDGE

Qualifications: A qualified elector, a resident of the county and district two years preceding the day of election, a high school graduate or its equivalent, and completion of a course of training required by law within six months of the beginning of the term of office. Miss. Code Ann., §9-11-3 (1972); Miss. Const. of 1890, art. VI, §171 (1975) and art. XII, §250.

Fee for party candidates: $10 made payable to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 15. No fee required.

CONSTABLE

Qualifications: A qualified elector in the county and district in which he/she seeks election. Miss. Code Ann., §19-19-1 et seq. (1972). Miss. Const. of 1890, art. VI, §171 (1975) and art. XII, §250.

Fee for party candidates: $10 made payable to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Number of signatures required for Independent candidates: 15. No fee required.

QUALIFYING TO VOTE IN MISSISSIPPI

Mississippians can vote if they are:

1. A United States citizen;
2. A resident of Mississippi;
3. 18 years of age or older;
4. Not declared mentally incompetent by a court; and
5. Not convicted in a Mississippi court of murder, rape, bribery, theft, arson, obtaining money or goods under false pretense, perjury, forgery, embezzlement or bigamy, unless having been pardoned or had rights of citizenship restored by the governor, or had suffrage restored by the Legislature.

REGISTERING TO VOTE

Many laws have been passed in Mississippi to make it easy for citizens to vote. The first step in exercising this freedom is registering.

In Person

To register to vote in person, you must do so with either the county registrar (usually the circuit clerk), the municipal clerk, or with the registrar or deputy registrar at a duly authorized satellite registration location. The county registrar's office is usually in the county courthouse; the municipal clerk's office is usually in city hall. Registrars must accept registration at any time during regular office hours. The registration form will be kept as a permanent record. Registration must be accomplished at least 30 days prior to the first election in which a citizen wishes to vote.

By Mail

Mail-in voter registration forms are available at the Secretary of State's Office, in public libraries, drivers license examining stations, circuit clerk's offices, municipal clerk's offices, and public schools. The application must be postmarked or delivered to the registrar 30 days prior to the first election in which a citizen wishes to vote. A qualified voter of the applicants' county of residence must witness the application.

National Voter Registration Act

In 1994, the federal government enacted the National Voter Registration Act, commonly called "Motor Voter Act." This Act enables persons who are applying for drivers licenses and aid from specific federal agencies to also register to vote while conducting business with the agency. This form may be downloaded from the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.ms.us.

Polling Place

Polling places, or precincts, are assigned to registered voters by the voter registrar. Voters who move from one precinct to another within the county or city should submit a written change of address card to the applicable voter registrar at the time of the move.

Absentee Balloting

Not every eligible voter can be at the polls on election day. Mississippi's absentee balloting laws provide opportunity for those who meet certain qualifications to cast their ballots before election day.

Absentee Balloting Eligibility

Registered voters who meet one of the following criteria can apply for and vote by absentee ballot:

1. Qualified elector who is away from his/her county of residence on election day for any reason;
2. Any person who is 65 years of age or older;
3. Temporary or permanent physical disability;
4. Elector who is a student, teacher or administrator, spouse and/or a dependent whose studies or employment necessitates absence from the county on election day;
5. A parent, spouse or dependent of a person with a temporary or permanent physical disability who is hospitalized outside of the county of residence or more than 50 miles away from the precinct;

6. Any member of the Mississippi congressional delegation absent from the state, including spouse and dependents;
7. A qualified elector who will be unable to vote in person because he/she is required to be at work on election day;
8. A member of the armed forces, a spouse, and/or dependent of military personnel;
9. A member of the Merchant Marines or Red Cross, a spouse, and/or dependent of a member; or,
10. Civilian attached to and serving outside the U. S. with any branch of the armed forces, Merchant Marines, or Red Cross, spouse, and/or dependent of a member

CANDIDATE QUALIFYING DEADLINES FOR 2003

- Statewide, Supreme Court District, State District, County, and County District Offices – March 1
- School Trustee – Friday, September 5
- Any County Special Elections – Friday, September 5

Primaries

Most candidates for offices, except judicial, school board, and election commissioner offices, are nominated during party primary elections. By law, judicial campaigns cannot be aligned with political parties. Voters cast ballots in the party primary of their choice. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes, a run-off, or second primary, is held between the top two vote getters. The run-off is held three weeks from the first primary in all except municipal primary run-offs, where the run-off is two weeks after the first primary. The 2003 primary elections in Mississippi were held on August 5, 2003, and the run-off elections were held August 25, 2003.

A voter who votes in the first primary of one party may not "crossover" and vote in the run-off of another party. Persons who do not vote in a first primary may vote in any party's run-off.

Voter registrars, the Secretary of State's Office, and state party offices give support for party executive committees during the primary process.

General Elections

Candidates are elected to office in general elections. General election ballots contain names of party nominees plus any qualified independent candidates. After the State Board of Elections approves it, the Secretary of State issues the "sample ballot" for state and state/district offices. The voter registrar issues "sample ballots" for local candidates. Candidates are identified by party or as independent on general election ballots, except in the case of judicial and election commissioner candidates. Usually, the candidate who receives the highest number of votes is elected in the general election. However, run-offs are sometimes necessary for the office of county election commissioner.

County election commissioners or municipal election commissioners run general elections with limited oversight from the State Board of Election Commissioners, comprised of the Governor, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General. Voter registrars and the Secretary of State's Office also provide support.

For information about which offices are contested in which years, please refer to the Mississippi Election Calendar on page A-45.

ELECTORAL VOTE: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

In order to be elected to any statewide office in a gubernatorial election year, a candidate must receive a majority of the popular vote and the electoral vote. Here are answers to some common questions on the process:

1. What is an electoral vote?

An electoral vote is assigned to the candidate for each statewide office who receives the most popular votes in a State House of Representatives district. Each district has one vote. There is no Electoral College with electors as in the Presidential election. Mississippi electoral votes are assigned based on the popular vote.

2. How are electoral votes for Governor be counted/tabulated?

Each County Election Commission determines the number of popular votes for Governor for each House District within the county, and forwards that information to the Secretary of State's Office. When the Secretary of State's Office receives these results from all 82 counties, the Secretary of State tabulates the electoral vote.

3. How is it possible for the electoral vote and the popular vote to sometimes differ, for example:

If candidate A has an overwhelming lead of popular votes in some house districts, and candidate B has a narrow lead in other house districts, then it is mathematically possible for one candidate to receive more electoral votes than popular votes.

For example, if candidate A received 90 percent of the popular vote in only 60 House Districts, while candidate B received only 51 percent of the popular vote in 62 House Districts, then it is possible for candidate A to receive more popular votes and for candidate B to receive more electoral votes.

NOTE: The Gubernatorial Election of 1999

The November 2, 1999, election for Governor was one of the closest in Mississippi history. Ronnie Musgrove received 379,034 popular votes, or 49.62 percent, and Mike Parker received 370,691 popular votes, or 48.52 percent. The remaining votes were split between two minor candidates. Both Ronnie Musgrove and Mike Parker received 61 "electoral votes." Usually, a person elected to statewide office, including Governor, receives more than half of the popular votes cast and also a majority of the electoral votes. An electoral vote automatically goes to the person who wins the most popular votes in each of the 122 state House of Representatives districts. These requirements are set out in Section 140 of the Mississippi Constitution of 1890. If a candidate does not receive both a majority of the popular votes and a majority of the electoral votes, Section 141 of the Constitution provides that the newly elected members of the state House of Representatives shall choose the Governor from between the two candidates receiving the highest number of popular votes. On January 4, 2000, the Mississippi House of Representatives elected Ronnie Musgrove the state's 62nd Governor by a vote of 86 to 36.

ELECTING A GOVERNOR

The Mississippi Constitution of 1890 specifies that in order to be elected to any statewide office, including Governor, a candidate must receive both a majority of the popular vote and a majority of the electoral vote.

Mississippi does not have an "Electoral College" as in the U.S. Presidential election with chosen electors who personally meet and vote. Rather, Mississippi electoral votes reflect the popular vote in each state House of Representative district.

The electoral vote works like this: There are 122 electoral votes, one for each Mississippi House district. Whoever wins the most votes in each district (not necessarily a majority) automatically receives that district's electoral vote. In order to receive a majority of the electoral vote, a candidate must receive at least 62 votes. If a candidate fails to receive a majority of both the popular and electoral vote, the election is decided by the newly elected House of Representatives in the next legislative session.

Official popular vote totals, including absentee ballots and legal affidavit ballots, are determined by each County Election Commission and are required to by law to be transmitted to the Secretary of State within 10 calendar days. The Secretary of State certifies the official popular vote, determines the electoral vote, and reports totals to the House of Representatives on the first day of the new legislative session.

If no candidate for Governor receives both a majority of the popular and electoral votes, the members of the newly constituted House of Representatives elect the Governor. House members may vote for the candidate of their choice among the top two vote-getters.

Reference:

Mississippi Constitution of 1890

Section 140.
The Governor of the state shall be chosen in the following manner: On the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November of A.D. 1895, and on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in every fourth year thereafter, until the day shall be changed by law, an election shall be held in the several counties and districts created for the election of members of the House of Representatives in this state, for Governor, and the person receiving in any county or such legislative district the highest number of votes cast therein, for said office, shall be holden to have received as many votes as such county or district is entitled to members in the House of Representatives, which last named votes are hereby designated "electoral votes". In all cases where a representative is apportioned to two (2) or more counties or districts, the electoral vote based on such representative, shall be equally divided among such counties or districts. The returns of said election shall be certified by the election commissioners, or the majority of them, of the several counties and transmitted, sealed, to the seat of government, directed to the Secretary of State, and shall be by him safely kept and delivered to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the first day of the next ensuing session of the Legislature.
The Speaker shall, on the same day he shall have received said returns, open and publish them in the presence of the House of Representatives, and said House shall ascertain and count the vote of each county and legislative district and decide any contest that may be made concerning the same, and said decision shall be made by a majority of the whole number of members of the House of Representatives concurring therein by a viva voce vote, which shall be recorded in its journal; provided, in case the two (2) highest candidates have an equal number of votes in any county or legislative district, the electoral vote of such county or legislative district shall be considered as equally divided between them. The

person found to have received a majority of all the electoral votes, and also a majority of the popular vote, shall be declared elected.

Section 141.
If no person shall receive such majorities, then the house of representatives shall proceed to choose a governor from the two persons who shall have received the highest number of popular votes. The election shall be by viva voce vote, which shall be recorded in the journal, in such manner as to show for whom each member voted.

ELECTION TURNOUT IN MISSISSIPPI

- VAP stands for "Voting Age Population."

YEAR	TOTAL VOTES CAST	STATE % OF VAP	NATIONAL % TURNOUT (VAP)
2003	707,568	34.2%	Total Primary turnout (Dem. + Rep.)
2002	677,636	32.7%	39% (Congressional Election)
2000	**994,184**	**48.6%**	**51.2%**
1999	763,938	37.6%	Gubernatorial Election
1999	690,513	34.0%	Total Primary turnout (Dem. + Rep.)
1998	550,917	27.4%	36.0% (Congressional election)
1996	**893,857**	**46.0%**	**49.4%**
1995	819,471	43.0%	Gubernatorial Election
1995	640,431	33.7%	Total Primary turnout (Dem. + Rep.)
1994	620,319	33.3%	Congressional Election
1992	**982,063**	**53.7%**	**55.2%**
1991	711,212	38.9%	Gubernatorial Election
1991	790,026	43.2%	Total Primary turnout (Dem. + Rep.)
1988	**934,527**	**54.7%**	**50.1%**
1987	721,695	42.3%	Gubernatorial Election
1987	826,851	48.5%	Total Primary turnout (Dem. + Rep.)
1984	**940,192**	**55.0%**	**53.1%**
1980	**892,620**	**52.3%**	**52.6%**
1976	**769,360**	**56.0%**	**53.6%**
1972	**645,963**	**47.0%**	**55.2%**
1968	**654,509**	**55.9%**	**60.9%**
1964	**409,146**	**34.9%**	**61.9%**
1960	**298,171**	**25.4%**	**62.8%**

**Population data from the US Census Bureau website (www.census.gov). National percentages provided by the Committee for the Study of the American Electorate.*

MISSISSIPPI ELECTION CHART 2003-2012

	‘03	‘04	‘05	‘06	‘07	‘08	‘09	‘10	‘11	‘12
Federal Offices										
President and Vice President		■				■				■
Senator (Staggered 6 yr. term)				■		■				■
Representative		■		■		■		■		■
State Offices										
Governor	■				■				■	
Lt. Governor	■				■				■	
Secretary of State	■				■				■	
Attorney General	■				■				■	
Auditor	■				■				■	
Treasurer	■				■				■	
Commissioner of Insurance	■				■				■	
Comm. of Ag. & Commerce	■				■				■	
State Senator	■				■				■	
State Representative	■				■				■	
Supreme Court Offices										
Supreme Court Justice (Staggered 8 yr. Term)		■				■		■		■
Transportation Comm.	■				■				■	
Public Service Comm.	■				■				■	
State District Offices										
Court of Appeals Judge (Staggered 8 yr. Term)				■		■		■		■
Chancery Court Judge				■				■		
Circuit Court Judge				■				■		
District Attorney	■				■				■	
Levee Commissioner		■		■		■		■		■
County Offices										
Sheriff	■				■				■	
Chancery Clerk	■				■				■	
Circuit Clerk	■				■				■	
County Court Judge				■				■		
Tax Assessor	■				■				■	
Tax Collector	■				■				■	
Coroner	■				■				■	
Superintendent of Education	■				■				■	
County Attorney	■				■				■	
Surveyor	■				■				■	
County District Offices										
Supervisor	■				■				■	
Justice Court Judge	■				■				■	
Constable	■				■				■	
Election Commissioner		■				■				
School Board Member (Staggered terms)		■		■		■		■		
Municipal Offices			■				■			

VOTING SYSTEMS

Voting is our way of making decisions, of speaking out to express our opinion on issues and of expressing satisfaction or dissatisfaction with public officials.

The ancient Greeks voted by use of white stones for "yes" and black stones for "no." Romans voted on wax tablets using a pointed stick. In Florence and Venice, they voted with little colored balls called "ballotta," from which comes the English word "ballot." The Pilgrims voted by raising their hands; some early settlers used corn and beans to vote "yes" or "no." In some of the early colonies, people voted "viva voce" or by voice. People sometimes vote today by saying "aye" or "nay."

The oldest and most common form of voting is the "voice vote." This method was used in the early American colonies in the 1700's and is used today by civic organizations, clubs, and in classrooms. In this method, the voter simply responds aloud with an appropriate "aye" or "nay," "yes" or "no" to the issue to be voted upon. This method has one important drawback--it does not provide for secrecy. Voting in secret is necessary to protect the voter from undue influence, persuasion, coercion, and bribery when voting. It protects the voter's right to express his/her own opinion.

Another method of voting requires that each voter be given two balls, one black and the other white. The black ball signifies a "no" vote and the white ball signifies a "yes" vote. The voter simply drops the appropriate ball into a container to vote. This method is the origin of the expression "to blackball" meaning "to vote against." While providing for secrecy, this method of voting can be quite cumbersome if there are a number of issues to be voted upon.

Political parties used to print their own ballots in different colors. In the late 1800's, we began using the Australian ballot using white paper. Mississippi jurisdictions use six basic types of voting systems: punch card devices, lever machines, push button direct recording electronic devices (late model DREs), touch screen direct recording electronic devices (advanced technology DREs), optical mark reader (OMR) ballots with centralized tabulation, and optical mark reader (OMR) ballots with precinct-level tabulation. More detailed information about each of these types follows.

Punchcards

Punchcard systems employ a card (or cards) and a small clipboard-sized device for recording votes. Voters punch holes in the cards (with a supplied punch device) opposite their candidate or ballot issue choice. After voting, the voter may place the ballot in a ballot box, or the ballot may be fed into a computer vote tabulating device at the precinct. Two common types of punchcards are the "Votomatic" card and the "Datavote" card. With the Votomatic card, the locations at which holes may be punched to indicate votes are each assigned numbers. The number of the hole is the only information printed on the card. The list of candidates or ballot issue choices and directions for punching the corresponding holes are printed in a separate booklet. (*Today's "Votomatic" cards are the direct descendents of the original punchcard developed from a concept introduced by political scientist and former government administrator Dr. Joseph P. Harris*) With the Datavote card, the name of the candidate or description of the issue choice is printed on the ballot next to the location of the hole to be punched.

Fulton and De Kalb Counties in Georgia were the first jurisdictions to use punchcards and computer tally machines when they adopted the system for the 1964 primary election. In the November 1964 Presidential election, these two jurisdictions were joined by Lane County, Oregon, and San Joaquin and Monterey Counties in California, who also adopted the punchcard system.

Although many jurisdictions are now switching from punchcard systems to more advanced Marksense or DRE systems, Los Angeles County, the Nation's largest election jurisdiction with 3.8

million registered voters, continues to rely on their punchcard voting system. In the 1996 Presidential election, some variation of the punchcard system was used by 37.3% of registered voters in the United States.

Lever Machines

On mechanical lever voting machines, the name of each candidate or ballot issue choice is assigned a particular lever in a rectangular array of levers on the front of the machine. A set of printed strips visible to the voters identifies the lever assignment for each candidate and issue choice. The levers are horizontal in their unvoted positions.

The voter enables the machine with a lever that also closes a privacy curtain. The voter pulls down selected levers to indicate choices. When the voter exits the booth by opening the privacy curtain with the handle, the voted levers are automatically returned to their original horizontal position. As each lever returns, it causes a connected counter wheel within the machine to turn one-tenth of a full rotation. The counter wheel, serving as the "ones" position of the numerical count for the associated lever, drives a "tens" counter one-tenth of a rotation for each of its full rotations. The "tens" counter similarly drives a "hundreds" counter. If all mechanical connections are fully operational during the voting period, and the counters are initially set to zero, the position of each counter at the close of the polls indicates the number of votes cast on the lever that drives it. Interlocks in the machine prevent the voter from voting for more choices than permitted.

The first official use of a lever type voting machine, known then as the "Myers Automatic Booth," occurred in Lockport, New York in 1892. Four years later they were employed on a large scale in the city of Rochester, New York, and soon were adopted statewide. By 1930, lever machines had been installed in virtually every major city in the United States, and by the 1960's well over half of the Nation's votes were being cast on these machines.

Mechanical lever machines were used by 20.7% of registered voters in the United States as of the 1996 Presidential election. Because these machines are no longer made, the trend is to replace them with computer based marksense or direct recording electronic systems.

Direct Recording Electronic Devices (DREs)

The most recent configuration in the evolution of voting systems are known as direct recording electronic, or DRE's. They are an electronic implementation of the old mechanical lever systems. As with the lever machines, there is no ballot; the possible choices are visible to the voter on the front of the machine. The voter directly enters choices into electronic storage with the use of a touch-screen, push-buttons, or similar device. An alphabetic keyboard is often provided with the entry device to allow for the possibility of write-in votes. The voter's choices are stored in these machines via a memory cartridge, diskette or smart-card and added to the choices of all other voters.

In 1996, 7.7% of the registered voters in the United States used some type of direct recording electronic voting system.

Optical Mark Reader (OMR) Ballots, a.k.a "Marksense"

Marksense systems employ a ballot card on which candidates and issue choices are preprinted next to an empty rectangle, circle, oval, or an incomplete arrow. Voters record their choices by filling in the rectangle, circle or oval, or by completing the arrow. After voting, the voters either place the ballot in a sealed box or feed it into a computer tabulating device at the precinct. The tabulating device reads the votes using "dark mark logic," whereby the computer selects the darkest mark within a given set as the

correct choice or vote. Marksense technology has existed for decades and been used extensively in such areas as standardized testing and statewide lotteries.

Although marksense systems are often referred to as "optical scan," marksense technology is only one of several methods for recognizing marks on paper through optical reading techniques.

Marksense systems were used by 24.6% of registered voters in the United States for the 1996 Presidential election, and their use is on the rise.

(Voting Device information from the website of the Federal Election Commission, www.fec.gov.)

Different devices have different error rates, or rates of "residual votes." Residual votes are overvotes (where someone casts more votes than allowed in a given election), undervotes (where a voter fails to cast a vote in a given election), or any other votes not counted for any reason, such as defective ballots or faulty tabulation machines. Because the number of residual votes in Florida during the Presidential Election of 2000, the outcome of that contest was in doubt for some time. Elections officials must now pay close attention to their particular voting system and attempt to make certain that all their constituents have a fair and equal chance at their vote counting.

New ways of voting are being tried. These include voting by telephone or by television connected to computers. People are constantly trying to invent new methods of voting that are cheap to build and to maintain, that are easy for the voter to use, that provide a fast and accurate vote count, and that protect the secrecy and honesty of the vote.

EVERY VOTE COUNTS!

Our democracy depends on the "consent of the governed"--something you give whether or not you go to the polls.

Perhaps no act that a citizen performs in a democracy is more important -- and more basic -- than voting. However, statistics show a disturbing trend toward lower voter involvement in our nation's political processes. One factor contributing to this problem is a sentiment among some potential voters that their votes won't really make a difference, and there is no good reason to vote. Often people see the huge numbers of votes coming in on election night, and they think one vote couldn't possibly matter. Many of the most important races in history were decided by one vote.

If you want to know the value of a single vote, just ask Lewis Foster or June Lyne, two Kentucky Democrats. In the 1981 primary election, Ms. Lyne challenged Mr. Foster for a seat in the Kentucky House of Representatives. The election produced a tie of 5,683 votes for each candidate. The voter who could have broken the tie on Election Day decided to stay home, perhaps thinking, "My vote won't be important. Why go?" As required by Kentucky law, the two candidates drew lots to determine the winner, and Mr. Foster won.

Close elections occur regularly in the United States at all levels of government. In Nebraska's 1990 governor's race, Ben Nelson defeated Kay Orr, the incumbent, by a mere 4,030 votes-- less than 1 percent of the 581,512 votes cast. In Arizona, the two main candidates for governor in 1990 were forced into a runoff election when neither won more than half the votes, as state law requires. The two were so close -- one had 49.7 percent of the vote, the other 49.2 percent -- that only a few thousand votes could have changed the outcome.

In Mississippi, a 1995 primary run-off election for Sheriff of Monroe County ended in a tie. Both candidates received 5,056 votes. Under state law, in case of a tie the winner would be determined by

"drawing of lots." A re-count was held and one candidate was determined the winner by 16 votes out of more than 10,000 cast.

As the following examples of other close votes in elections demonstrate, one vote does indeed make a difference.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

- One Electoral College vote kept Aaron Burr from becoming President. That one vote elected Thomas Jefferson President in 1800.
- John Quincy Adams was elected President by one Electoral College vote.
- One vote saved President Andrew Johnson from impeachment in 1868.
- One vote in Congress elected Rutherford B. Hayes President in 1876 when the Electoral College deadlocked. The deciding vote was cast by a member of Congress from Indiana; he had been elected by a one-vote margin.
- In 1884, the equivalent of less than one vote per precinct in New York State would have elected Republican James G. Blaine President over Democratic winner, Grover Cleveland.
- In 1916, Woodrow Wilson was re-elected by carrying one state (California) by less than one percent of the vote.
- In the 1960 presidential race, John F. Kennedy defeated Richard Nixon by only 120,000 votes out of nearly 69 million cast. Kennedy won Hawaii by a mere 115 votes! John F. Kennedy's margin of victory over Nixon in 1960 was less than one vote per precinct. In fact, a shift of the equivalent of one vote in every precinct in Illinois would have given Nixon an additional 26 electoral votes, resulting in Kennedy's defeat.
- In 2000, Governor George W. Bush defeated Vice President Al Gore by 5 electoral votes. The deciding factor in the race was the state of Florida where the margin of victory for Bush in the certified popular vote was 537 votes.

GUBERNATORIAL ELECTIONS

- One vote (out of a total of 102,666 cast) elected Marcus Morton Governor of Massachusetts in 1839.
- The 1962 Governor's race in Minnesota was so close it took four months to find out who won. The State Canvassing Board gave Anderson 619,722 votes and Rolvaag 619,580 votes. After a District Court recount, Anderson had 619,751 votes and Rolvaag had 619,842. The margin of victory was 91 votes.
- In the 1982 Illinois Gubernatorial election, a shift of the equivalent of one vote in half of all precincts would have resulted in the defeat of Governor James Thompson by Adlai Stevenson III.
- In the 1990 Nebraska primary, Ben Nelson defeated Bill Hoppner for the Democratic nomination by only 42 votes out of a total of more than 89,400 votes cast.
- In the 1999 Mississippi Gubernatorial election the final popular vote showed Ronnie Musgrove with a 8,343 vote lead over Mike Parker (379,034 to 370,691). The electoral vote was tied 61-61. The race was thrown into the Mississippi House of Representatives in January of 2000, where Musgrove was elected by a vote of 86 to 36.

SENATORIAL ELECTIONS

- In 1974, New Hampshire had one of the closest and most contested elections in this country. In the senatorial race, Republican Louis Wyman appeared to be the winner by 542 votes. But after a recount, Democrat John Durkin was certified the winner by 10 votes. Still later, the decision was reversed, and Wyman was declared the winner by two votes. After a year of court battles and controversy in Congress, a special election was held in which Durkin won with 140,273 votes to Wyman's 113,004 votes.

- In 1980, John East defeated the Democrat incumbent, Robert Morgan, for the United States Senate seat from North Carolina. He won by only one vote per precinct.
- In the 1986 North Dakota Senate election, a shift of the equivalent of less than two votes per precinct would have resulted in the defeat of Kent Conrad by the incumbent, Senator Mark Andrews.
- In the 1986 Alabama Senate election, Senator Jeremiah Denton, who was defeated by Richard Shelby, would have retained his seat with a shift of the equivalent of only two votes in each precinct.
- In the 1988 Senate primary in Delaware, S. B. Woo defeated Sam Beard for the Democratic nomination by a margin of 81 votes. A shift of the equivalent of one vote in 25 percent of the precincts would have given the nomination to Beard.

CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS

- In the 1984 Congressional election in Indiana's Eighth District, a second re-count conducted by the House of Representatives determined that Representative Frank McCloskey had defeated Richard McIntyre by four votes out of more than 230,000 votes cast.
- In the 1986 Congressional election in Indiana's Third District, Representative John Haler defeated Thomas Ward by only 47 votes out of a total of 152,509 votes cast.
- In the 1986 Congressional election in Maryland's Fourth District, Thomas McMillen defeated Robert Neal by 428 votes. A shift of the equivalent of slightly more than two votes in each precinct would have resulted in McMillen's defeat.

OTHER CLOSE ELECTIONS IN RECENT HISTORY

- In a 1981 local school district election in Belmont, California, winner Chon Gutierrez and his opponent, Stanley Langland received the same number of votes and had to draw straws to determine the winner.
- In June 1989, a school district millage proposition in Lansing, Michigan, failed. A re-count produced a tie vote and fell short of the required simple majority. Failure of the measure meant that the school district had to reduce its budget by $2.5 million.
- In June 1990, the contest for the Democratic nomination for county attorney in Carbon County, Montana, resulted in a 836-836 tie vote. In accordance with Montana law, the tie was broken by having the candidates guess the date on one of two coins, minted in different years, pulled from a can by the election administrator. Troy Kendall chose the correct date and was declared the winner.

Compiled in part from information provided by The League of Women Voters

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

- He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.
- He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.
- He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.
- He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.
- He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.
- He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.
- He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.
- He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.
- He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

- He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance.
- He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.
- He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.
- He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:
- For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:
- For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:
- For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:
- For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:
- For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:
- For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences
- For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:
- For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:
- For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.
- He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.
- He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.
- He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.
- He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.
- He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.
Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our Brittish brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on

the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

The 56 signatures on the Declaration appear in the positions indicated:

Column 1

Georgia:
Button Gwinnett
Lyman Hall
George Walton

Column 2

North Carolina:
William Hooper
Joseph Hewes
John Penn

South Carolina:
Edward Rutledge
Thomas Heyward, Jr.
Thomas Lynch, Jr.
Arthur Middleton

Column 3

Massachusetts:
John Hancock

Maryland:
Samuel Chase
William Paca
Thomas Stone
Charles Carroll of Carrollton

Virginia:
George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Thomas Jefferson
Benjamin Harrison
Thomas Nelson, Jr.
Francis Lightfoot Lee
Carter Braxton

Column 4

Pennsylvania:
Robert Morris
Benjamin Rush
Benjamin Franklin
John Morton
George Clymer
James Smith
George Taylor
James Wilson
George Ross

Delaware:
Caesar Rodney
George Read
Thomas McKean

Column 5

New York:
William Floyd
Philip Livingston
Francis Lewis
Lewis Morris

New Jersey:
Richard Stockton
John Witherspoon
Francis Hopkinson
John Hart
Abraham Clark

Column 6

New Hampshire:
Josiah Bartlett
William Whipple

Massachusetts:
Samuel Adams
John Adams
Robert Treat Paine
Elbridge Gerry

Rhode Island:
Stephen Hopkins
William Ellery

Connecticut:
Roger Sherman
Samuel Huntington
William Williams
Oliver Wolcott

New Hampshire:
Matthew Thornton

Taken from the website of the National Archives, at www.archives.gov.

U. S. CONSTITUTION

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves 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.

Clause 1: The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

Clause 2: No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Clause 3: 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 to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. *(See Note 2)* The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

Clause 4: When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

Clause 5: The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Section. 3.

Clause 1: The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, *(See Note 3)* for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Clause 2: Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies. *(See Note 4)*

Clause 3: No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

Clause 4: The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

Clause 5: The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

Clause 6: The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Clause 7: Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

Section. 4.

Clause 1: The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators.

Clause 2: The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, *(See Note 5)* unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

Section. 5.

Clause 1: Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Clause 2: Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

Clause 3: Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

Clause 4: Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

Section. 6.

Clause 1: The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. *(See Note 6)* They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, beprivileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

Clause 2: No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments whereof shall have been encreased during such time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office.

Section. 7.

Clause 1: All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills.

Clause 2: Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a Law. But in all such Cases the Votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and Nays, and the Names of the Persons voting for and against the Bill shall be entered on the Journal of each House respectively. If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted)

after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

Clause 3: Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of Adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the Same shall take Effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the Rules and Limitations prescribed in the Case of a Bill.

Section. 8.

Clause 1: 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;

Clause 2: To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

Clause 3: To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

Clause 4: To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

Clause 5: To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

Clause 6: To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

Clause 7: To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

Clause 8: 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;

Clause 9: To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

Clause 10: To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offences against the Law of Nations;

Clause 11: To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

Clause 12: To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

Clause 13: To provide and maintain a Navy;

Clause 14: To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

Clause 15: To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

Clause 16: 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;

Clause 17: 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

Clause 18: 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.

Section. 9.

Clause 1: The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

Clause 2: The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.

Clause 3: No Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.

Clause 4: No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or Enumeration herein before directed to be taken. *(See Note 7)*

Clause 5: No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

Clause 6: No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another: nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.

Clause 7: No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

Clause 8: No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

Section. 10.

Clause 1: 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.

Clause 2: 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.

Clause 3: 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.

ARTICLE. II.
Section. 1.

Clause 1: The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows

Clause 2: Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

Clause 3: The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by Ballot for two Persons, of whom one at least shall not be an Inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a List of all the Persons voted for, and of the Number of Votes for each; which List they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the Seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the Presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have an equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse by Ballot one of them for President; and if no Person have a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like Manner chuse the President. But in chusing the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representation from each State having one Vote; A quorum for this Purpose shall consist of a Member or Members from two thirds of the States, and a Majority of all the States shall be necessary to a Choice. In every Case, after the

Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal Votes, the Senate shall chuse from them by Ballot the Vice President. *(See Note 8)*

Clause 4: The Congress may determine the Time of chusing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States.

Clause 5: No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.

Clause 6: In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, *(See Note 9)* the Same shall devolve on the VicePresident, and the Congress may by Law provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what Officer shall then act as President, and such Officer shall act accordingly, until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

Clause 7: The President shall, at stated Times, receive for his Services, a Compensation, which shall neither be encreased nor diminished during the Period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Clause 8: Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:--"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Section. 2.

Clause 1: The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; he may require the Opinion, in writing, of the principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

Clause 2: He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he 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 Court, 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.

Clause 3: The President shall have Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate, by granting Commissions which shall expire at the End of their next Session.

Section. 3.

He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

Section. 4.

The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

Article. III.
Section. 1.

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, both of the supreme and inferior

Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

Section. 2.

Clause 1: The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority;--to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls;--to all Cases of admiralty and maritime Jurisdiction;--to Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party;--to Controversies between two or more States;--between a State and Citizens of another State; *(See Note 10)*--between Citizens of different States, --between Citizens of the same State claiming Lands under Grants of different States, and between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.

Clause 2: In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party, the supreme Court shall have original Jurisdiction. In all the other Cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

Clause 3: The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment, shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by Law have directed.

Section. 3.

Clause 1: Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open Court.

Clause 2: The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attainted.

Article. IV.
Section. 1.

Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

Section. 2.

Clause 1: The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

Clause 2: A Person charged in any State with Treason, Felony, or other Crime, who shall flee from Justice, and be found in another State, shall on Demand of the executive Authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

Clause 3: No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due. *(See Note 11)*

Section. 3.

Clause 1: New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

Clause 2: The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

Section. 4.

The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.

ARTICLE. V.

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

ARTICLE. VI.

Clause 1: All Debts contracted and Engagements entered into, before the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

Clause 2: This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.

Clause 3: The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

ARTICLE. VII.

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

done in Convention by the Unanimous Consent of the States present the Seventeenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the Twelfth In witness whereof We have hereunto subscribed our Names,
GO WASHINGTON--Presidt. and deputy from Virginia
[Signed also by the deputies of twelve States.]

Delaware
Geo: Read
Gunning Bedford jun
John Dickinson
Richard Bassett
Jaco: Broom
Maryland
James MCHenry
Dan of ST ThoS. Jenifer
DanL Carroll.
Virginia
John Blair--
James Madison Jr.

North Carolina
WM Blount
RichD. Dobbs Spaight.
Hu Williamson
South Carolina
J. Rutledge
Charles Cotesworth
Pinckney
Charles Pinckney
Pierce Butler.
Georgia
William Few
Abr Baldwin

New Hampshire
John Langdon
Nicholas Gilman
Massachusetts
Nathaniel Gorham
Rufus King
Connecticut
WM. SamL. Johnson
Roger Sherman
New York
Alexander Hamilton
New Jersey
Wil: Livingston
David Brearley

New Jersey cont.
WM. Paterson.
Jona: Dayton
Pennsylvania
B Franklin
Thomas Mifflin
RobT Morris
Geo. Clymer
ThoS. FitzSimons
Jared Ingersoll
James Wilson.
Gouv Morris
Attest William Jackson
Secretary

Notes:

Note 1: This text of the Constitution follows the engrossed copy signed by Gen. Washington and the deputies from 12 States. The small superior figures preceding the paragraphs designate Clauses, and were not in the original and have no reference to footnotes.

The Constitution was adopted by a convention of the States on September 17, 1787, and was subsequently ratified by the several States, on the following dates: Delaware, December 7, 1787; Pennsylvania, December 12, 1787; New Jersey, December 18, 1787; Georgia, January 2, 1788; Connecticut, January 9, 1788; Massachusetts, February 6, 1788; Maryland April 28, 1788; South Carolina, May 23, 1788; New Hampshire, June 21, 1788.
Ratification was completed on June 21, 1788.

The Constitution was subsequently ratified by Virginia, June 25, 1788; New York, July 26, 1788; North Carolina, November 21, 1789; Rhode Island May 29, 1790; and Vermont, January 10, 1791.

In May 1785, a committee of Congress made a report recommending an alteration in the Articles of Confederation, but no action was taken on it, and it was left to the State Legislatures to proceed in the matter. In January 1786, the Legislature of Virginia passed a resolution providing for the appointment of five commissioners, who, or any three of them, should meet such commissioners as might be appointed in the other States of the Union, at a time and place to be agreed upon, to take into consideration the trade of the United States; to consider how far a uniform system in their commercial regulations may be necessary to their common interest and their permanent harmony; and to report to the several States such an act, relative to this great object, as, when ratified by them, will enable the United States in Congress effectually to provide for the same. The Virginia commissioners, after some correspondence, fixed the first Monday in September as the time, and the city of Annapolis as the place for the meeting, but only four other States were represented, viz: Delaware, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania; the commissioners appointed by Massachusetts, New Hampshire, North Carolina, and Rhode Island failed to attend.

Under the circumstances of so partial a representation, the commissioners present agreed upon a report, (drawn by Mr. Hamilton, of New York,) expressing their unanimous conviction that it might essentially tend to advance the interests of the Union if the States by which they were respectively delegated would concur, and use their endeavors to procure the concurrence of the other States, in the appointment of commissioners to meet at Philadelphia on the Second Monday of May following, to take into consideration the situation of the United States; to devise such further provisions as should appear to them necessary to render the Constitution of the Federal Government adequate to the exigencies of the Union; and to report such an act for that purpose to the United States in Congress assembled as, when agreed to by them and afterwards confirmed by the Legislatures of every State, would effectually provide for the same.

Congress, on the 21st of February, 1787, adopted a resolution in favor of a convention, and the Legislatures of those States which had not already done so (with the exception of Rhode Island) promptly appointed delegates. On the 25th of May, seven States having convened, George Washington, of Virginia, was unanimously elected President, and the consideration of the proposed constitution was commenced. On the 17th of September, 1787, the Constitution as engrossed and agreed upon was signed by all the members present, except Mr. Gerry of Massachusetts, and Messrs. Mason and Randolph, of Virginia. The president of the convention transmitted it to Congress, with a resolution stating how the proposed Federal Government should be put in operation, and an explanatory letter. Congress, on the 28th of September, 1787, directed the Constitution so framed, with the resolutions and letter concerning the same, to "be transmitted to the several Legislatures in order to be submitted to a convention of delegates chosen in each State by the people thereof, in conformity to the resolves of the convention."

On the 4th of March, 1789, the day which had been fixed for commencing the operations of Government under the new Constitution, it had been ratified by the conventions chosen in each State to consider it, as follows: Delaware, December 7, 1787; Pennsylvania, December 12, 1787; New Jersey, December 18, 1787; Georgia, January 2, 1788; Connecticut, January 9, 1788; Massachusetts, February 6, 1788; Maryland April 28, 1788; South Carolina, May 23, 1788; New Hampshire, June 21, 1788; Virginia, June 25, 1788; and New York, July 26, 1788.

The President informed Congress, on the 28th of January, 1790, that North Carolina had ratified the Constitution November 21, 1789; and he informed Congress on the 1st of June, 1790, that Rhode Island had ratified the Constitution May 29, 1790. Vermont, in convention, ratified the Constitution January 10, 1791, and was, by an act of Congress approved February 18, 1791, "received and admitted into this Union as a new and entire member of the United States."

Note 2: The part of this Clause relating to the mode of apportionment of representatives among the several States has been affected by Section 2 of amendment XIV, and as to taxes on incomes without apportionment by amendment XVI.

Note 3: This Clause has been affected by Clause 1 of amendment XVII.

Note 4: This Clause has been affected by Clause 2 of amendment XVIII.

Note 5: This Clause has been affected by amendment XX.

Note 6: This Clause has been affected by amendment XXVII.

Note 7: This Clause has been affected by amendment XVI.

Note 8: This Clause has been superseded by amendment XII.

Note 9: This Clause has been affected by amendment XXV.

Note 10: This Clause has been affected by amendment XI.

Note 11: This Clause has been affected by amendment XIII.

Note 12: The first ten amendments to the Constitution of the United States (and two others, one of which failed of ratification and the other which later became the 27th amendment) were proposed to the legislatures of the several States by the First Congress on September 25, 1789. The first ten amendments were ratified by the following States, and the notifications of ratification by the Governors thereof were successively communicated by the President to Congress: New Jersey, November 20, 1789; Maryland December 19, 1789; North Carolina, December 22, 1789; South Carolina, January 19, 1790; New Hampshire, January 25, 1790; Delaware, January 28, 1790; New York, February 24, 1790; Pennsylvania, March 10, 1790; Rhode Island June 7, 1790; Vermont, November 3, 1791; and Virginia, December 15, 1791.

Ratification was completed on December 15, 1791.

The amendments were subsequently ratified by the legislatures of Massachusetts, March 2, 1939; Georgia, March 18, 1939; and Connecticut, April 19, 1939.

Note 13: Only the 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th articles of amendment had numbers assigned to them at the time of ratification.

Note 14: This sentence has been superseded by section 3 of amendment XX.

Note 15: See amendment XIX and section 1 of amendment XXVI.

Note 16: Repealed by section 1 of amendment XXI.

Taken from:
www.house.gov

THE BILL OF RIGHTS

1. **Religious establishment prohibited. Freedom of speech, of the press, and right to petition.** Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

2. **Right to keep and bear arms.** A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

3. **Conditions for quarters for soldiers.** No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

4. **Right of search and seizure regulated.** The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

5. **Provisions concerning prosecution. Trial and punishment— private property not to be taken for public use without compensation.** No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

6. **Right to speedy trial, witnesses, etc.** In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

7. **Right of trial by jury.** In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

8. **Excessive bail or fines and cruel punishment prohibited.** Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

9. **Rule of construction of Constitution.** The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

10. **Rights of States under Constitution.** 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.

Note: The above mentioned text is a transcription of the first 10 amendments to the Constitution in their original form. These amendments were ratified December 15, 1791, and form what is known as the "Bill of Rights."

Taken from the website of the National Archives, at www.archives.gov.

EDITORIAL CARTOONS

Editorial cartoons express a personal view of politicians and campaigns. The cartoonist tries to encourage people to think about issues. This is accomplished through the use of caricatures and symbols.

RELEVANT TERMS

- CARTOON – a drawing that caricatures, often satirically, some situation or person; a humorous drawing, often with a caption
- CARICATURE – to distort the representation of a person or issue with ludicrous effect
- SATIRE – the use of ridicule, sarcasm, irony, etc., to attack or deride vices, follies, etc.
- EDITORIAL – a statement of opinion in a newspaper or on radio or television
- OPINION – a belief not based on certainty or knowledge but on what seems true, valid or probable; an evaluation, estimation, etc.
- POLITICAL – concerned with the science of government, having to do with political affairs
- SYMBOL – something used to represent some other thing which is not easily represented or visualized; for instance, the dove is a symbol of peace

COMMON HISTORICAL SYMBOLS IN CARTOONS

- China – dragon
- Russia – bear
- United States – Uncle Sam, Statute of Liberty
- Great Britain – John Bull, lion
- Democrats – donkey
- Republicans – elephant
- Peace – a dove or an angel
- World – a globe, a man with a globe head
- Unions – man in working clothes
- Farmers – man in overalls

_____
Number
(SOS Use Only)

PROMOTE THE VOTE
STATE ESSAY CONTEST
COVER SHEET

STUDENT NAME_____

STUDENT ADDRESS_____

STUDENT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER _____

AGE_____ **GRADE**_____

SCHOOL/PROGRAM NAME_____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

COUNTY_____

SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER_____

I hereby certify that this essay has been selected for inclusion in the state *Promote the Vote* essay contest.

_____
School/Program Coordinator

I hereby certify that this essay can be published on the *Promote the Vote* website at www.sos.state.ms.us/ed_pubs/Educational/VoterEd.

_____ _____
Parent/Guardian School/Program Coordinator

_____
Number
(SOS Use Only)

PROMOTE THE VOTE
STATE ART CONTEST
TITLE SHEET

_____
(TITLE)

STUDENT NAME_____

STUDENT ADDRESS_____

STUDENT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER _____

AGE_____ **GRADE**_____

SCHOOL/PROGRAM NAME_____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

COUNTY_____

SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER_____

I hereby certify that this artwork has been selected for inclusion in the state *Promote the Vote* art contest.

_____
School/Program Coordinator

I hereby certify that this essay can be published on the *Promote the Vote* website at www.sos.state.ms.us/ed_pubs/Educational/VoterEd.

_____ _____
Parent/Guardian School/Program Coordinator

_____
Number
(SOS Use Only)

PROMOTE THE VOTE
STATE POLITICAL CARTOON CONTEST
TITLE SHEET

_____
(TITLE)

STUDENT NAME_____

STUDENT ADDRESS_____

STUDENT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER _____

AGE_____ **GRADE**_____

SCHOOL/PROGRAM NAME_____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

COUNTY_____

SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER_____

I hereby certify that this political cartoon has been selected for inclusion in the state *Promote the Vote* political cartoon contest.

_____
School/Program Coordinator

I hereby certify that this essay can be published on the *Promote the Vote* website at www.sos.state.ms.us/ed_pubs/Educational/VoterEd.

_____ _____
Parent/Guardian School/Program Coordinator

_____
Number
(SOS Use Only)

PROMOTE THE VOTE
STATE VIDEO PRODUCTION CONTEST
TITLE SHEET

_____
(TITLE)

STUDENT NAMES_____

_____

_____

GRADE LEVEL(S)_____

CLASS NAME _____

INSTRUCTOR NAME _____

SCHOOL/PROGRAM NAME_____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

COUNTY_____

SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER_____

I hereby certify that this video has been selected for inclusion in the state *Promote the Vote* video production contest.

_____
School/Program Coordinator

VOTER REGISTRATION CHALLENGE
OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Dear Mississippi Teacher:

As part of "Promote the Vote," the Secretary of State's Office is sponsoring a "Voter Registration Challenge" for high school students who will be 18 by Election Day, November 4, 2003.

To take part, find out how many students in your school will be eligible to vote by Election Day. Submit that list of names, indicating how many of those students have registered, to the Secretary of State's Office by **November 21, 2003**. Schools with exceptional achievement in registering first-time voters will be publicly recognized by our office.

Thanks for your help to "Promote the Vote!"

Sincerely,

ERIC CLARK
SECRETARY OF STATE

Promote the Vote Voter Registration Challenge

Sponsored by the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office

School Name _____

Contact Name/Phone Number _____

Number of Students who will be 18 by November 4 _____

Number and Percent (%) of Students Registered to Vote _____

REMEMBER TO ATTACH YOUR NAMES!

Please report your school's totals to: Mississippi Secretary of State's Office
ATTN: *Promote the Vote* Coordinator
Post Office Box 136
Jackson, MS 39205
Tel.: 1-800-256-3494 or 601-359-6350
Fax: 601-359-1499 E-Mail: ptv@sos.state.ms.us

Number and names of registered voters must be received by November 21, 2003.

POLITICAL MESSAGE EVALUATION/SCORE SHEET

This score sheet allows you to grade political speakers on mastery of particular issues and overall debate performance.

SECTION 1: ADVERTISING

Have your students review televised political advertising for a candidate. List some topics covered in the commercial and rank the candidate's presentation of that topic on a scale of 1-5 (1 is "poor," 5 is "excellent").

CANDIDATE NAME: _____ **TOPICS**	**SCORE:**	**COMMENTS:**
TOTAL SCORE		

SECTION 2: SPEAKING EVENT

Students may have the opportunity to hear candidates speak at length on their candidacy. Give each speaker a score of 1-5 (1 is "poor," 5 is "excellent") for overall performance in each of 4 areas.

CANDIDATE NAME: _____ **AREAS OF ANALYSIS**	**SCORE:**	**COMMENTS:**
Candidate's analysis of issues, reasoning in argument.		
Strength of candidate's evidence for claims.		
Candidate's refutation of opponent's position.		
Candidate's overall delivery.		
TOTAL SCORE		

NOTE: This score sheet is for only a superficial judgment of a political message. Students and teachers are encouraged to attempt more in-depth analysis by supplementing this form with questions and issues of class interest.

PROMOTE THE VOTE 2003

OFFICIAL BALLOT

GOVERNOR

_____ Haley Barbour, Republican Party
_____ John Thomas Cripps, Constitution Party
_____ Sherman Lee Dillon, Green Party
_____ Ronnie Musgrove, Democratic Party
_____ Shawn O'Hara, Reform Party

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

_____ Barbara Blackmon, Democratic Party
_____ Anna J. Reives, Reform Party
_____ Amy Tuck, Republican Party

PROMOTE THE VOTE 2003

OFFICIAL BALLOT

GOVERNOR

_____ Haley Barbour, Republican Party
_____ John Thomas Cripps, Constitution Party
_____ Sherman Lee Dillon, Green Party
_____ Ronnie Musgrove, Democratic Party
_____ Shawn O'Hara, Reform Party

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

_____ Barbara Blackmon, Democratic Party
_____ Anna J. Reives, Reform Party
_____ Amy Tuck, Republican Party

PROMOTE THE VOTE 2003

TALLY SHEET

School Name: _____

Contact Name and Phone Number _____

Please indicate the total number of votes cast for each candidate in the space next to his/her name.

GOVERNOR

_____ Haley Barbour, Republican Party

_____ John Thomas Cripps, Constitution Party

_____ Sherman Lee Dillon, Green Party

_____ Ronnie Musgrove, Democratic Party

_____ Shawn O'Hara, Reform Party

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

_____ Barbara Blackmon, Democratic Party

_____ Anna J. Reives, Reform Party

_____ Amy Tuck, Republican Party

Please report your school's totals to:
Secretary of State's Office
***Promote the Vote* Coordinator**
Phone: 1-800-256-3494 or 601-359-6350
601-359-1499(fax)
E-Mail: ptv@sos.state.ms.us
Online reporting available at www.sos.state.ms.us/ed_pubs/Educational/VoterEd
All votes must be reported by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 28.