

Illinois Constitution Packet

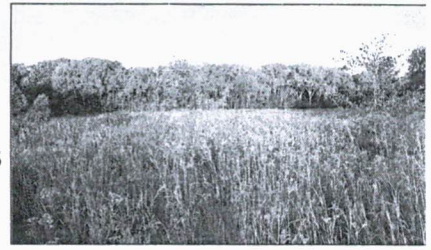


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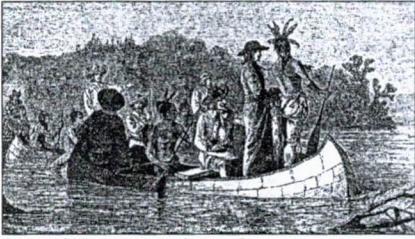
ILLINOIS STATE HISTORY

Illinois Prairie



By the time the U.S. Constitution was being signed, our state was a wilderness. Early visitors described the area as a rolling prairie covered with tall grasses and woods.

The “discovery” of Illinois by whites took place in 1673 by the two French explorers, Marquette and Jolliet. During the time between the discovery of Illinois and its admission to the union as a state, the French and English both controlled the area at times. French forts and communities sprung up in the Illinois wilderness. Fort de Crevecoeur was established near Peoria in 1680 followed in 1682 by Fort St. Louis on Starved Rock. One of the first white villages, Pimitouri, later called Peoria was established in 1691. Cahokia was organized in 1699 and Kaskaskia four years later.



Marquette & Jolliet exploring the Mississippi R.

Native American tribes of Illinois included the Miami, Illiniwek (Illinois), and Potawatomee Indians. The word “Illinois,” which means ‘tribe of superior men,’ comes from the Algonquin Indians.

Defeated by England in the French and Indian War in 1763, France gave up its claim to its possessions east of the Mississippi River.

Illinois was established as a county of Virginia in 1778. In 1787, it became part of the Northwest Territory. In 1800, the territory of Indiana was established, and Illinois became part of it. In 1809, Illinois and the present state of Wisconsin were made a territory, the Illinois territory. Kaskaskia was its capital and Ninian Edwards was the first territorial governor.

On December 3, 1818, Illinois was admitted as the 21st state. Kaskaskia was our first capital city, and Shadrach Bond became the first governor.

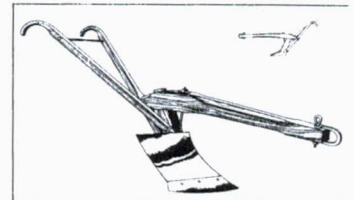
In 1832 the Black Hawk War was fought in northern Illinois. Chief Black Hawk and his Salk and Fox warriors defeated the white militia at Stillman's Run, but retreated into Wisconsin where the Indians were later defeated.

The capital was moved from Kaskaskia to Vandalia and in 1839 the capital was moved again to Springfield. A member of the General Assembly, Abraham Lincoln, helped make Springfield the Illinois capital.

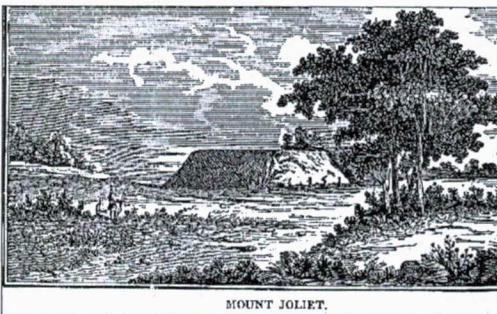
Soon after Springfield was selected as the new capital, the state became divided on the question of slavery. In 1858, Lincoln challenged Stephen A. Douglas, U.S. Senator, and the national policy on slavery, which Douglas supported. The eyes of the nation focused on the state as the two men engaged in their seven historic debates. Although Lincoln lost the election in 1858 to Douglas, the campaign gave him national recognition. Two years later he won the Republican nomination for the Presidency and was elected the 16th President of the United States.

Illinois Industry

John Deere's invention of the prairie plow in 1837 gave encouragement to Illinois agriculture and it became an agricultural state. After the Civil War, Illinois turned to the development of its natural resources and to its transportation. By 1870 coal mining had become one of Illinois' largest industries. Improved transportation, an abundance of coal, and westward movement of industry combined to make Illinois a great industrial region. Sprawling, vigorous Chicago was destined to become the manufacturing center, not only in Illinois, but the entire Midwest.



Example of the revolutionary steel plow.



MOUNT JOLIET.

Early drawing of area around Joliet Mound.

Where We Live

Joliet area has lots of history. In 1833 after the Black Hawk War people started settling around the Des Plaines River in an area referred to as “Joliet.” Maps from Marquette and Jolliet show the current day Joliet area on their maps having a huge hill called Mound Jolliet in the city's southwest corner. In 1852 “Joliet” was officially incorporated as a city.

ILLINOIS STATE HISTORY: ASSIGNMENT #1

1. Illinois was discovered by _____ and _____ in _____.
2. Illinois is named after a(n) _____.
3. What does the word Illinois mean? _____.
4. Illinois became a state on (month, day, year) _____.
5. The first state governor of Illinois was _____.
6. Illinois has had 3 capital cities. Name them in order from the oldest to the most current.

7. Before becoming a state, Illinois was part of what 4 territories (regions) of the country?

8. What else in the Joliet area is named after the two explorers who first "discovered" this area?

THE ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION AND STATE SYMBOLS

Constitution

The first Constitution of Illinois was adopted in 1818 by a convention, which met in Kaskaskia.

In 1848 a new constitution was adopted. This constitution was noted for the increase of power to the people since they could now elect many government officials.

In 1862, a new constitution was discussed, but not adopted. In 1869 another new proposal met with success and became the new constitution in 1870.

In 1969, Illinois voters elected delegates to a new constitutional convention. The Constitution of 1870 had proven to be outdated and it had been almost impossible to govern Illinois under such a document. The new convention met for the first time in 1970 under the leadership of Samuel Witwer who had fought for 23 years for a new constitution. The new Constitution of Illinois went into effect on July 1st, 1971.

Organization

The U.S. Constitution gives certain responsibilities to the states. To carry these out, states have set up state constitutions. The state government, for example, is responsible for state highway construction and maintenance, local laws, intrastate commerce (trade), traffic laws, education, marriage and divorce laws, hospitals, voting regulations, and etc.

The organization of the state government is very similar to that of the federal government. Both have three branches of government with similar functions. Both the U.S. Constitution and the Illinois Constitution have a bill of rights.

Preamble

The Preamble of the Illinois Constitution states the purpose of the Illinois Constitution. Unlike the U.S. Preamble, the Illinois Preamble makes references to God.

Bill of Rights

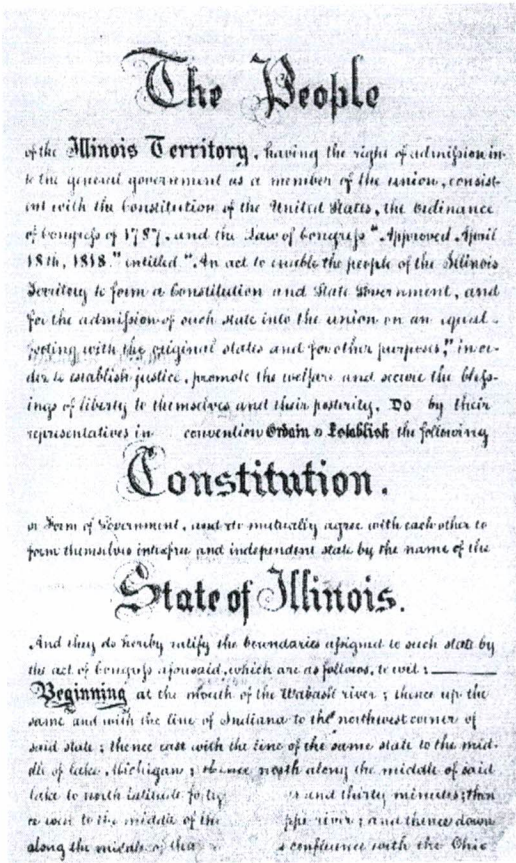
The Bill of Rights is found in Article I of the Illinois Constitution. The Illinois Bill of Rights contains 24 sections, unlike the U.S. Constitution Bill of Rights, which contains 10 sections. It includes the traditional safeguards of the United States Constitution. It also includes the following additional safeguards. It prohibits any form of discrimination based upon color, race, national origin, gender, or handicap. It also contains a provision to protect crime victims' rights.

Changing the Constitution

The two ways of amending the Constitution are:

1. Constitutional Convention: If three-fifths (3/5) of the members in each House of the General Assembly (state legislature) approve, there can be a call for a constitutional convention, which voters can approve or disapprove.
2. By the General Assembly: If three-fifths (3/5) of the General Assembly approve, amendments can be proposed by the General Assembly. These must be submitted to the voters at the next General Election.

ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION, FLAG & STATE SYMBOLS: ASSIGNMENT #2



1. What year did the most RECENT constitution go into effect? _____
2. How many different constitutions has Illinois had? _____
3. List 4 responsibilities given to the states by the U.S. Constitution?

4. What are the two ways of amending(changing) the constitution?

5. What do the dates mean on the flag?

6. What does the banner have written on it?

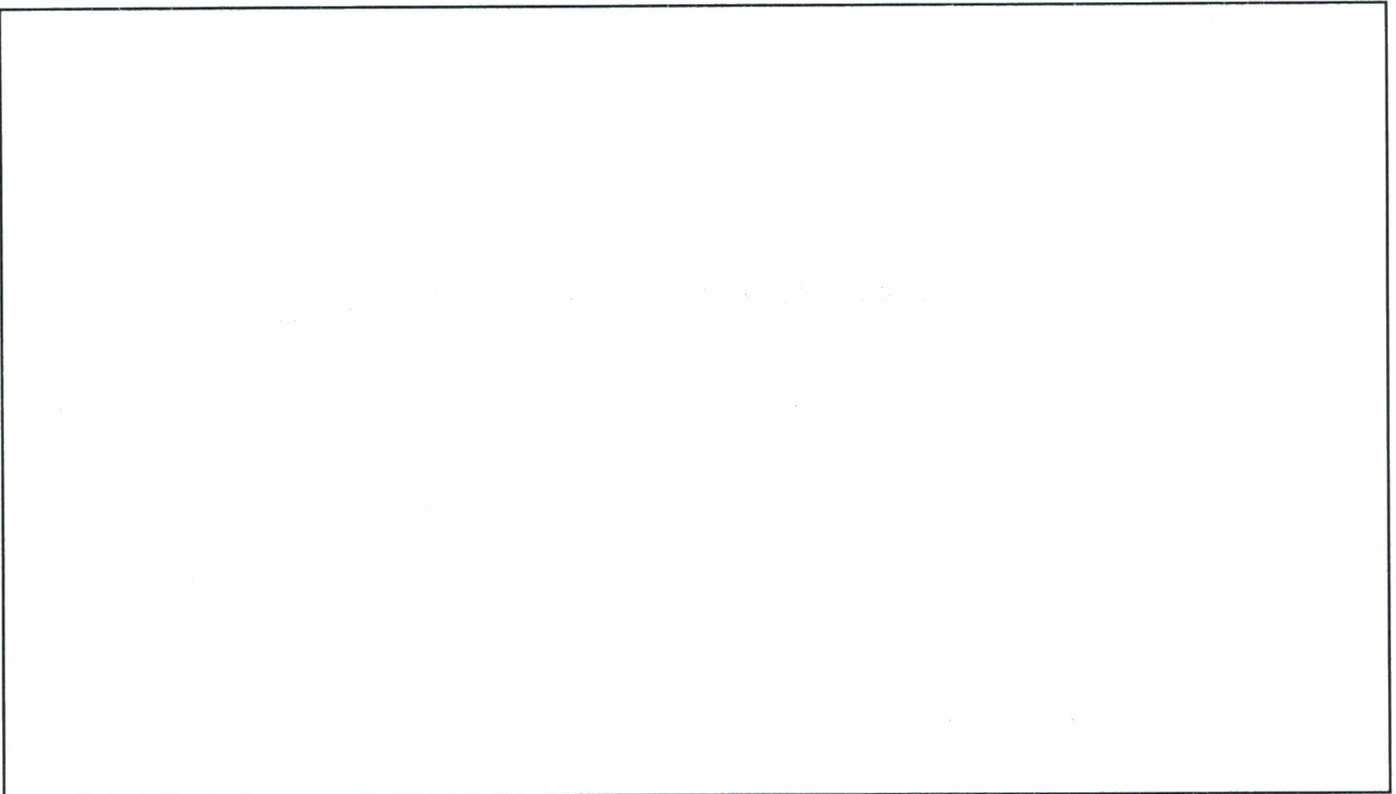


- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 7. State Slogan: | 11.State Snack food | 15.State Bird |
| 8. State Dance | 12.State Animal | 16.State Mineral |
| 9. State Flower | 13.State Tree | 17.State Insect |
| 10.State Song | 14.State Fish | |

ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION, FLAG & STATE SYMBOLS: ASSIGNMENT #2

The governor put you in charge of designing a new flag for Illinois. The current one is boring and does not represent Illinois completely. He said you must have a few things in this new flag design:

1. State Name somewhere
2. Year IL became a state
3. Image(s) that represent IL.



Explain what you designed and how you think this represents Illinois.

THE BRANCHES OF STATE GOVERNMENT: LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Legislative Branch is the law-making branch of Illinois government. The legislature of Illinois meets each year beginning on the second Wednesday of January and concludes when the legislative work of the state has been finished.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The main body of the Legislative Branch is the General Assembly. It consists of the Senate and House of Representatives. There are 177 members in the General Assembly. The Senate has 59 members and the House of Representatives has 118 members. All members of the General Assembly are elected by the people. All members of the General Assembly must be 21 years old or older, be a resident of the district for at least 2 years, and be a citizen.

In order to do work, a quorum of its members must be present. A quorum is a majority of the members. Each house determines its own rules and procedures. No member can be expelled, except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. Either house can imprison any people who show disrespect to the house, but for only 24 hours. Both houses are organized into committees to help conduct business efficiently.

DISTRICTS

There are 59 legislative districts in the state. Each district elects one (1) senator and two (2) state representatives. Redistricting is done every 10 years in order to keep the districts compact, contiguous, substantially equal in population.

THE STATE SENATE

There are 59 state senators, one from each of the legislative districts. A senator's term for four years and he/she may be re-elected without limit. Elections are held in even-numbered years, with about half the Senate elected every two years. The presiding officer of the Senate is the President of the Senate, who is elected by all the state senators. In addition to its regular law-making powers, the Senate had the following special powers: the Senate tries impeachment cases (runs the trial) and the Senate must approve many of the appointments made by the governor.

Here's the door Rod

In 2009 the IL General Assembly used their powers of impeachment on former governor Rod Blagojevich. IL House voted 114-1 in favor of impeachment. IL Senate overwhelmingly found him guilty of misconduct.



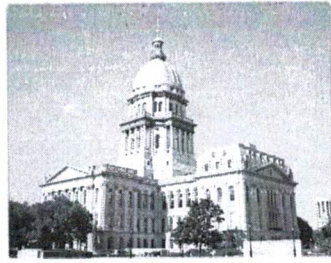
THE STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

There are 118 state representatives, 2 from each of the 59 legislative districts. A representative's term is for 2 years. Elections are held in even-numbered years and representatives may be re-elected without limit. The presiding officer of the House is the Speaker of the House.

SPECIAL POWERS OF THE HOUSE

Besides its regular law-making duties, the House of Representatives' special power is the sole power of impeachment (draws up charges of impeachment). As you may recall, impeachment means to charge an official of wrongdoing.

THE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH: ASSIGNMENT #3



1. Name of the legislative body in Illinois?

SENATE

2. Number of State Senators: _____

4. Term length for Senators: _____

6. Presiding officer of the Senate:

Special Powers of the Senate:

8. _____

9. _____

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

3. Number of State Reps: _____

5. Term length for Reps: _____

7. Presiding officer of the House:

Special Power of the House:

10. _____

Total Number of State Legislators (Senate + House):

11. _____

Number of Legislative districts in IL?

12. _____

Each district gets what number of:

13. Senators: _____

14. House Reps: _____

(3) Qualifications to be a State Legislator:

15.

16.

17.

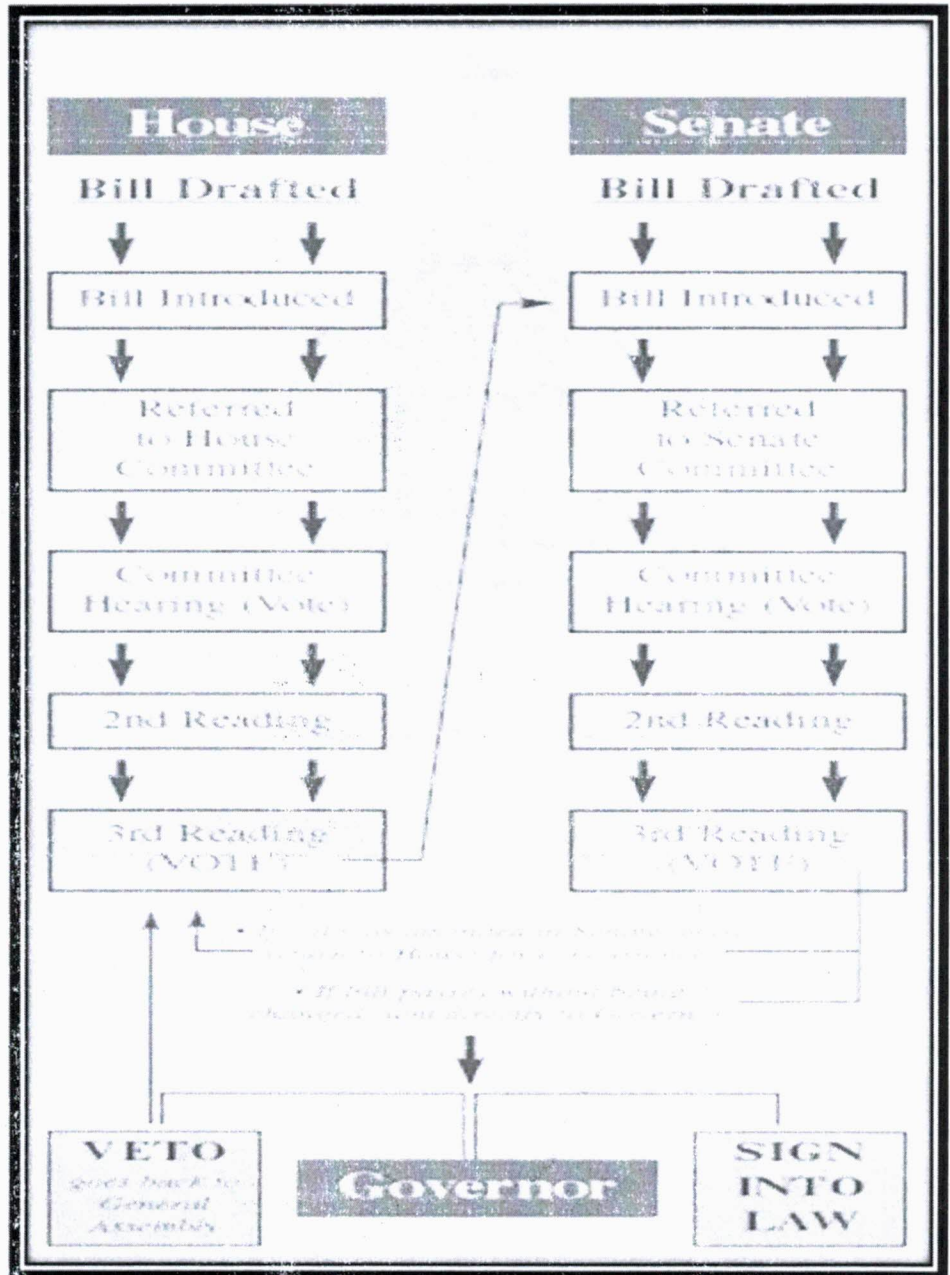
ACCORDING TO ARTICLE IV OF THE ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION, "THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL ENACT LAWS ONLY BY BILLS. BILLS MAY ORIGINATE IN EITHER HOUSE, BUT MAY BE AMENDED OR REJECTED BY THE OTHER."

IN GENERAL, A BILL BECOMES LAW AFTER PASSING BOTH HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND RECEIVES THE GOVERNOR'S APPROVAL. IN CASE OF A VETO FROM THE GOVERNOR, THE BILL CAN STILL BECOME A LAW BY PASSING BOTH HOUSES BY A THREE-FIFTHS (3/5) VOTE.

A BILL MAY START IN EITHER HOUSE. COMMITTEES ARE USED IN THE STATE LAW-MAKING PROCESS MUCH LIKE IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

BILLS ONLY NEED A MAJORITY VOTE FOR PASSAGE. HOWEVER, IF THE GOVERNOR VETOES A BILL THAT HAS BEEN SENT TO HIM, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MUST THEN PASS THE BILL BY A THREE-FIFTHS (3/5) VOTE IN BOTH HOUSES TO OVERRIDE THE VETO.

THE PROCESS OF MAKING LAWS



The Constitution's rules about passing bills include:

1. Bills must be read on 3 different days (by title) before final vote on passage.
2. Most bills are confined to one subject.
3. A bill passed by both house must be sent to Governor within the 30 days. The Governor has 60 days to sign it, veto, or do nothing. If he does nothing it becomes a bill.

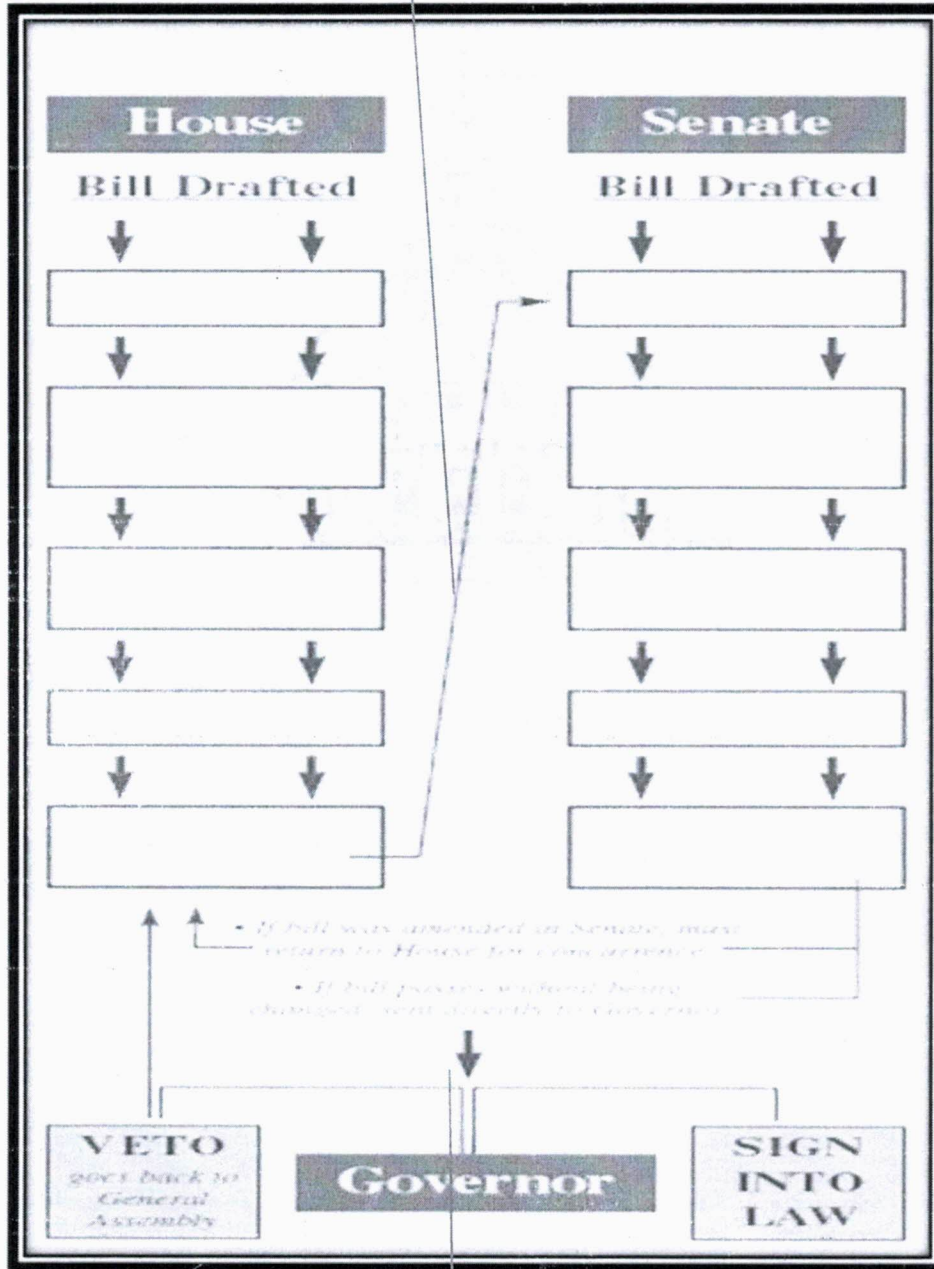


Lobbies

Lobbies are important in the law-making process. Lobbies are organized groups who seek to influence lawmakers. Most of these lobbies operate legally under the laws controlling them, and some of them do a service of informing our lawmakers. However, there are some instances where these lobbies exert too much influence and the views of other citizens are overlooked.

How a Bill becomes a Law

- Bills must be read on _____ different days (by title) before final vote on passage.
- Bills must be confined to _____ subject.



Fill
In
The
Blanks





- Bills that pass the House & Senate have _____ days to get to the Governor
- The Governor then has _____ days to veto or sign.
- If _____ days pass the bill automatically becomes law.

Branches of State Government: Executive Branch

The Governor of Illinois	
What does the Governor do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforces and Administers Laws - chief job Chief Executive of State Government (Head of Executive Branch) Vetoing or approving bills passed by General Assembly
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Least 25 years old Resident of the state for 3 years preceding election Citizen of the United States
Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 years and may be re-elected an unlimited number of times

The Responsibilities of the Governor	
Appointments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoints members of the state government (may appoints need approval of the State Senate) Removal of officials if the governor feels they are incompetent (but not executive officers...they are elected)
Pardons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forgive a person of a crime
Reprieves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delay the carrying out of a criminal sentence
Commutations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shorten a criminal sentence
Commander-in-chief of state militia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May call out militia to carry out laws of state, but not in charge in cases of national emergencies
Call special meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May call the General Assembly into special sessions

Vetoes that the Governor can Carry Out	
Regular Veto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole bill is rejected
Item Veto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Veto only part of the bill (used in spending bills, General Assembly can still pass bill if they accept change)
Amendatory Veto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notes specific recommendations the house can pass the bill by simply accepting the recommendation

Former Governors		Current Governor	
Pat Quinn (2009-2015) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Democrat Was Lt. Governor while Rod Blagojevich was governor Troubles with economy of Illinois High praise for environmental causes Abolished death penalty in Illinois 		Bruce Rauner (2015 -) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Republican Tried to push the Right to Work Bill Seeking to reform economy through budget cuts 	
Rod Blagojevich (2003-2009) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Democrat Elvis Fan! Currently in Jail for bribery and conspiracy 			
George Ryan (1999-2003) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Republican Was in jail for federal corruption charges Changed 160 death sentences to life sentences 			

THE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT – EXECUTIVE BRANCH: ASSIGNMENT #5

1. What are the 3 qualifications to be governor?
2. What is the chief job of the Executive Branch?
3. Who is the current governor of Illinois?
4. Define pardon.
5. Define reprieve.
6. Define commutation.
7. Who is the commander-in-chief of the state militia?
8. How long is the term of a Governor?
9. List the 3 types of vetoes a Governor has:

Identify if the following statements describes a pardon, reprieve, commutation, regular veto, item veto, or an amendatory veto.

1. A spending bill is given to the Governor, he likes the bill, but he doesn't like one part of the bill. The Governor vetoes that one part. What kind of veto is this?
2. The Governor is presented a criminal who he believes is not guilty. He wants to say he is not guilty. What will he grant?
3. The Governor is presented a criminal whose trial is coming up. He wants to delay the trial for the people of Illinois. What will he grant?
4. The Governor is presented a traffic bill that he does not like, and does not want it passed. What kind of veto will he give this bill?
5. The Governor is presented a criminal who he believes has too long of a sentence. He wants to shorten it. What will he grant?
6. The Governor is presented a bill that he likes but feels that he has more to offer. He presents the General Assembly with a recommendation, and if the recommendation is accepted the bill will be passed. What is this called?

Executive Officers

Besides the Governor, other executive officers include the Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Comptroller, and the Lieutenant Governor. The Illinois Constitution provides that all executive officers have the same qualifications and term as the Governor.

Executive Office	Officer	Duty
Lieutenant Governor	Evelyn Sanguinetti	Given duties to perform that the Governor delegates to her. Lt. Governor may become Governor if he can no longer fulfill his duties. Point person on education reform. First in line for Governor.
Attorney General	Lisa Madigan	Chief legal officer of the state....aka attorney of the state. Gives legal advice to the Governor and protects consumers from fraud. Number two in line for the Governor.
Secretary of State	Jesse White	Deals more directly with the people of Illinois than any other executive office. Maintains drivers' licenses and plates, and maintains vehicle records Third in line for Governor.
Treasurer	Michael Frerichs	Keeps Illinois money safe and invested securely.
Comptroller	Leslie Geissler Munger	Makes sure all state bills are valid and should be paid. Chief fiscal(money) officer. Watches over state money.

Executive Department Organizations: Various departments of the Executive Branch are organized to carry out specific tasks. There are called Civil Administrative Code Departments. The most important of these are: Aeronautics, Agriculture, Conservation, Finance, Labor, Mines Safety, Public Aid, Public Works and Buildings, REGistration and Education, Revenue, Personnel, Children and Family Services, Insurance, Mental Health and Financial Institutions. The Governor selects and appoints the heads of these departments. There are boards and commissions, which fall under the authority of the Governor. Some are permanent while other exist for a short period of time. These include Racing Board, Fair Employment Practices Commission, Human Relations Commission and the Tollway Commission.

OFFICERS IN THE STATE GOVERNMENT: ASSIGNMENT #6

1. Which office has more direct contact with the people of Illinois than any other executive office?

2. List the line of succession for the Governor.

3. Who may become Governor if the present Governor cannot fulfill his duties?

4. Who is the State's Chief Fiscal (Money) Officer? aka: pay the bills

6. Who gives legal advice to the executive offices?

7. Who issues driver licenses, vehicle plates, and maintains records?

9. Who is responsible for the safekeeping and investment of state monies?

10. Who is the "Watchdog" of the State's money? _____

12. What is the term of any executive officer? _____

13. To be an executive officer, you must be at least _____ years old, a resident of the state for

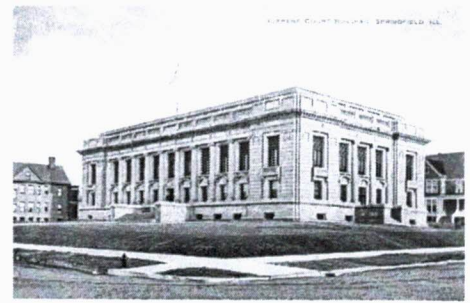
for at least _____ years preceding their election, and a _____.



ILLINOIS

THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

The main functions of the Judicial Branch are they administer justice, interpret the meaning of law and the Constitution of Illinois, and settles disputes. It is composed of a system of state courts. The state courts are the Illinois Supreme Court, Illinois Appellate Courts, and the Illinois Circuit Courts.



CIRCUIT COURTS

Circuit Courts are the general trial courts. In these courts cases are heard and judgments are made. They have original jurisdiction. The voters elect Circuit Judges to 6-year terms. Associate judges are appointed by the Circuit Judges and serve a 4 year term.



ORIGINAL

APPELLATE COURTS

This court hears appeals from the Circuit Courts and, therefore, has appellate jurisdiction. Its judges are elected and serve for 10-year terms. There are 5 judicial districts. Will County is in the 3rd Judicial District.



SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court of Illinois has original jurisdiction in the following cases: Revenue, mandamus, and habeas corpus. Otherwise it is simply the final court of appeal on all other state matters that have come up from the lower courts. Its judges also serve for 10-year terms. There are seven Supreme Court judges. It takes a majority to render a decision (4). These judges are elected also.

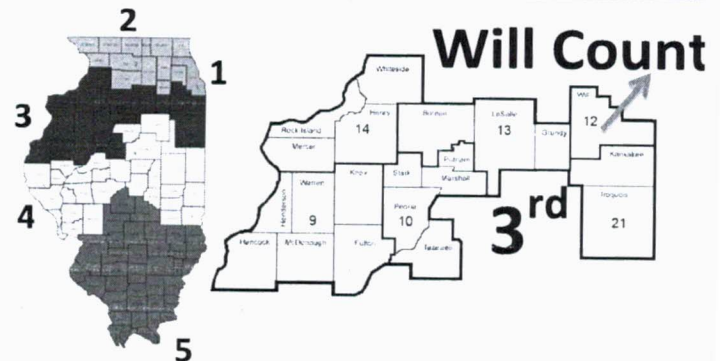
ORIGINAL

DID YOU KNOW?

Once judges have been elected, they may run for re-election on their records, without opposition. In these cases voters simply vote yes or no on their retention. If three-fifths (3/5) approval is not obtained, the judge must be replaced.

All judges must be citizens, licensed attorneys of the state, and residents of the districts from which they are elected. Judges must devote full time to their judicial duties and may not engage in law practice or hold other office, including officers in political parties.

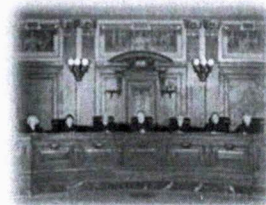
All judges must be citizens, licensed attorneys of the state, and residents of the districts from which they are their judicial duties and may not engage in law practice or hold other office, including officers in political parties.



-Cases heard by Appellate

-Cases heard by Supreme

Judicial Branch Assignment



3 Main functions of the Judicial Branch **1** _____

2 _____

3 _____

LIST ORDER OF JUDICIAL
COURTS

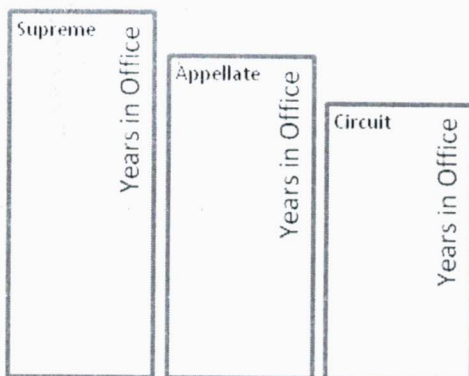
Lowest Court _____

Middle Court _____

Highest Court _____

3 Qualifications to be a Judge in
Illinois

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Answer these questions about Illinois Judges?

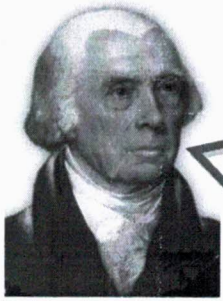
**Are the state court judges appointed
or elected?**

**How many judges are there on the
Illinois Supreme Court?**

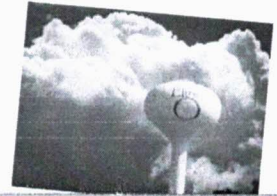
**List 3 qualifications to be a state
court judge?**

Who is the Jury in an Indictment?

Local Government



"Federalism"
 Our national system is based on federalism. Federalism is the sharing of the power of government amongst the federal, state, and local governments.



James Madison
 4th United States President



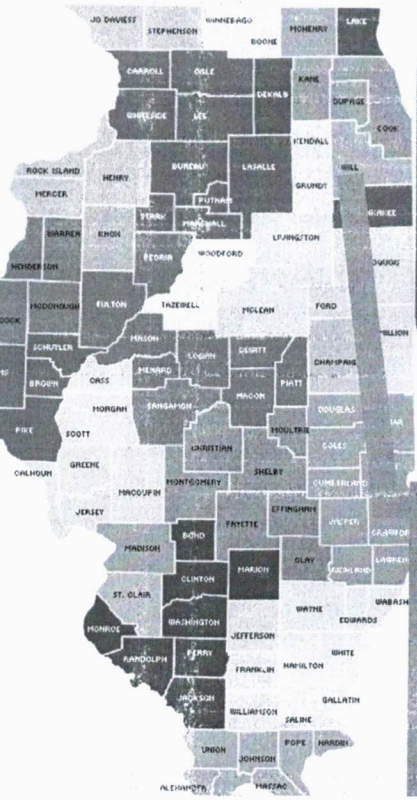
Municipalities

A municipality (city, village, or town) is created upon the request of or with the consent of the residents in order that they may provide for themselves the services that they need or desire. Some of these services are: fire and police protection, cultural and recreational regulations, building and zoning regulation, and general health and welfare of the community.



Mayor – Council Form: In the mayor-council form of government, the council and mayor are elected from the people. The council, however, is the legislative power and passes local laws. The mayor is the presiding officer of the council and he/she may vote in cases of a tie. He/she may veto measures from the council, but they can override his/her veto by a two-third (2/3) vote.

Trustee Village: This type has 6 trustees and a village President.



Commission Form: This form has an elected mayor and 4 commissioners. The duties of the city government are divided among these officers.

Council – Manager Form: The municipality may keep its structure as mayor/council, trustee village, or commission while adopting the manager form. A professionally trained manager is hired by the city to manage the municipality.

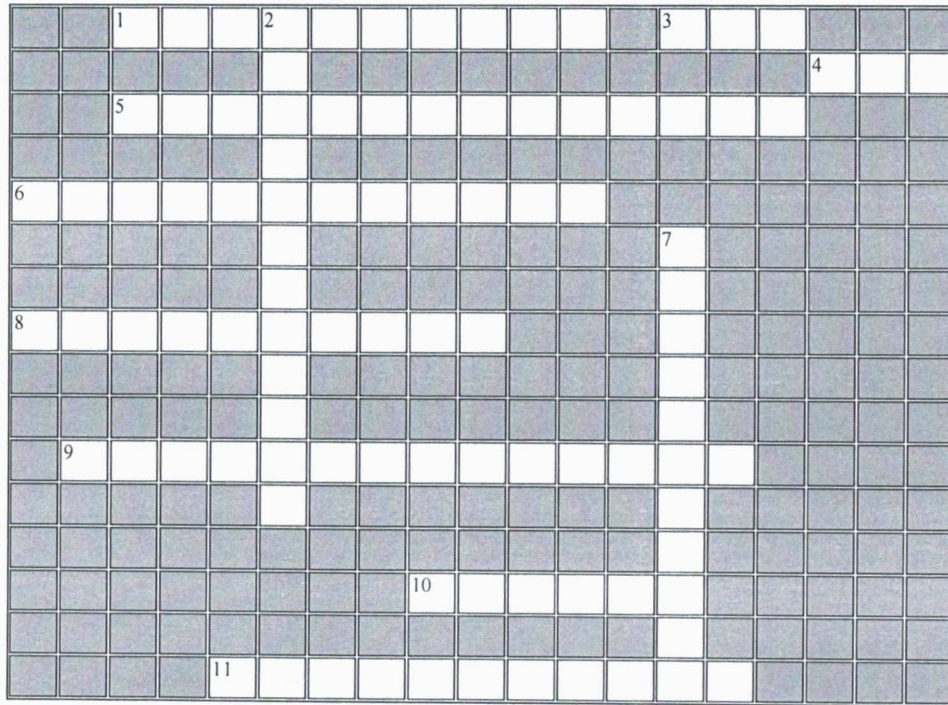
Strong Mayor: The mayor gets almost complete executive powers and the council is only legislative. As an example, the mayor does not need legislative approval of any of his appointments.



Counties

Illinois has 102 counties. The county is the largest unit of local government. Each county has a county seat where its governing body is located. Our county seat is Joliet. All counties carry out state policy in a general nature; they enforce laws, prosecute offenders, build and maintain roads, keep records, conduct elections, assess property, and collect taxes. Each county has a governing body known as the county board. Within each county there are 6 mile x 6 mile sections called townships.

Local Government



ACROSS

1. This has an elected mayor and 4 commissioners.
3. Illinois has how many counties?
4. Sections of a county called townships
5. This may keep its structure as mayor/council, trustee village, or commission while adopting the manager form.
6. The council and the mayor are elected from the people.
8. Our national system is based on this...
9. This type has 6 trustees and a village president.
10. Largest unit of local government.
11. Governing body of a county

DOWN

2. Created up the request of or with the consent of the residents in order that they may provide for themselves the services that they need or desire.
7. The mayor gets almost comp

VOTING IN ILLINOIS



Qualifications	Disqualification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Least 18 Years old • Resident of their district for 30 days • Citizens • Must register with the local election district at least 28 days before the election 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convicted of a felony • Under sentence in jail <p>Lose Your Right to Vote (but restored when sentence is served)</p>

General Elections are always on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November in even-numbered years.

Primaries are elections in which party members elect the candidates of their party. Illinois uses the closed primary system. The closed primary system is where voters on Election Day must choose one political party's ballot. Only Democratic candidates are found on the Democratic ballot, and only Republican candidates are found on the Republican ballot. Voters must choose only one ballot.

State Board of Elections is a board that supervises and carries out the registration and election laws. Its members must be bipartisan, meaning it is composed of members from both political parties.

Referendums are a public issues that voters also vote on during Election Day. An example of a referendum is a tax increase for a school district. The voters would vote yes or no for the tax increase.

Local News!!!



Troy needs more money for operating Funds: funds to build school, and to Keep exploratory and sporting programs



April 2006:

The Troy School District referendum vote total remained unchanged Monday after a partial recount of ballots cast March 21. The tax increase proposal, which would have provided operating funds for a new school, appeared to pass by two votes on Election Day. But a final count of absentee, provisional and grace period votes on April 6 sank the measure by one vote, 3,162 for to 3,163 against.

May 2006:

Several voters filed a lawsuit Friday in Will County Circuit Court that challenges the one-vote loss in March of a tax-hike referendum measure for Troy School District 30C. The suit says nine voters in one precinct who should have been allowed to vote on the measure were not given the correct ballot.

June 2006:

The Troy School District's roller-coaster referendum ride came to a conclusion Friday when a Will County judge ruled that the ballot measure passed by the slimmest of margins, 1.86 votes.

Result: W.B. Orenic School is Built & Exploratory and Sport Programs are Back!

