THE FEDERAL SYSTEM REVIEW

The Federal System

Florida reviews its Constitution and makes changes every 20 years. The first Florida constitution made it a law that slavery could not be made illegal. Florida’s current constitution has been in effect since 1968. A Florida governor can serve two four year terms in a row. Article I of the Florida Constitution talks about rights of citizens.

The US Supreme Court is always the court of “last resort.” Remember Appellate Courts review the decisions of lower courts.

Reserved powers go to the states

Concurrent powers are shared (the power to tax is a shared power) remember superhero video

The Legislative Branch

A bicameral legislative has two chamber (a senate and a house), a unicameral has one. Nebraska is the only US state to have a unicameral legislature. The size of a legislature is usually determined by a census (population count) that happens every 10 years.

Law-making: unlike with the federal government, state citizens can repeal unpopular laws by voting, this is called a popular referendum. When legislatures ask voters to approve a new law it is called a legislative referendum.

Once a bill in introduced by a legislative member it goes to committee for review (just like the I’m Just a Bill video).

The Executive Branch

One job of the executive branch is for the governor to sign bills into laws, just like the president.

State government positions

Attorney General – in charge of representing the state in legal matters

State Treasurer – handles the money in state government

State Auditor – makes sure all employees are following rules and being honest and efficient

Secretary of State – the state official who handles election results