

**REPEAL THE SEVENTEENTH AMMENDMENT
The Direct Election of Congressional Senators**

The United States is a Democratic Representative Republic, whose states and people have granted to its central government certain Constitutionally limited powers.

This structure of the American republican government has been eroded to such a degree that the independent powers of the States and their citizens has been severely degraded. The degradation occurred as part of a series of politically Progressive "democratic" measures.

The people lost their greatest with the imposition of a direct capitation tax - the income Tax.

The states lost their greatest independence and power with the passage of the 17th Amendment. This amendment took control of the Federal Senate away from the State Legislatures and handed the selection of Senators to a statewide election. The six year term of the senators was retained, but the selection of Senators was taken away from the state's elected government, wherein policies that the state wanted championed would be decided. By weakening the authority of the individual state government, the Amendment eliminated one of the electoral protections against a purely national government. The current danger is that the country has moved much closer to a corrupt centralized tyranny.

Some disparage the "Founding Fathers distrust of the citizenry," because they constructed a representative republic rather than a pure democracy, even in a time when voting was limited to White yeomen - those who owned land and had what was considered a "stake in the country."

Unlike the early voters of the Colonial period, today's voters are poorly educated in history and are ignorant of the actual issues facing the country, let alone facing Tennessee; their vote being a reflexive action to what they hear on commercial media. Ultimately statewide elections are controlled more by current issues that are national in scope, rather than particularly affecting Tennessee.

An example of the dangers of a pure Democracy is the history of the French under Napoleon

Bonaparte, who were engaged in a series of referendums to determine the amount of authority Napoleon should have.

These referendums were plebiscites (direct votes), considered to be the most democratic of all voting methods. Yet, each vote granted Napoleon more power until he became an absolute emperor over the French people.

Ironically, the French democratically and freely voted away their own liberty.

It appears the American Founders had presaged the events in France by examining the history of earlier democracies. Prior to the Civil War, America was referred to in the plural: *The United States of America are a wonderful country*. We are 50 independent states, never intended to have a central government that makes us all dance to the same tune. In essence, if you don't like one state, but like the country, you can always move to another state, which is what is happening now, with many people leaving heavily Democrat governed states.

(See a full article on the Electoral College and voting here:

https://joelgoodman.us/joel-goodman_published_articles/federalist-2_electoral-college.pdf)

ARTICLE ONE / US Constitution

Section 3

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Seventeenth Amendment

Ratified in March, 1919,

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures.

When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of such State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, That the legislature of any State may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.