

Illinois Government

Constitutional Powers:

Relationship btwn states & federal govt: Article 4 & Amendment 10

- US CONSTITUTION
- FEDERAL LAWS
- STATE CONSTITUTIONS
- STATE LAWS
- LOCAL LAWS: COUNTY, TOWNSHIP, CITY, VILLAGE



IL Quiz 1

- Legislative Branch and Lawmaking

Illinois Legislative Branch

- ❖ Main duty: make laws
- ❖ Main Body: General Assembly (Legislature)
 - Contains the Senate and the House of Representatives

Qualifications for General Assembly Members:

- ❖ Minimum Age: 21 yrs. old
- ❖ US Citizen
- ❖ Resident of the district for at least 2 years.

Each General Assembly member represents a district

- ❖ 59 senatorial districts

- ❖ Each of these 59 are then divided in half, to make up 118 representative districts

Illinois Senate

- ❖ 59 members
- ❖ Term length: 4 years
- ❖ Top officer: President of the Senate John Cullerton
- ❖ Duties: Makes laws, jury in impeachment, approves appointments of the governor

Illinois House of Representatives

- ❖ 118 members
- ❖ Term length: 2 years
- ❖ Top Officer: Speaker of the House Michael Madigan
- ❖ Duties: Makes laws, brings charges in impeachment

Lawmaking Process

- ❖ A bill becomes a law after passing both houses of the General Assembly, and then getting signed by the governor
- ❖ The General Assembly can pass a law over the governor's veto by a 3/5 vote in both houses
- ❖ The governor has 60 days to act on a bill (if he does nothing, it becomes a law)

IL Quiz 2

- Executive Branch

Executive Branch Details

- ❖ Main duty: enforce laws
- ❖ Chief executive of the state: Governor Bruce Rauner
- ❖ Qualifications: Age: 25 yrs, US Citizen, Resident of the state for 3 yrs.
- ❖ Term of office: 4 years
- ❖ Line of succession: Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State

Duties of the Governor

- ❖ Sign/veto bills
- ❖ Appoint certain members of state gov' t
- ❖ Grant pardons
- ❖ Give “State of the State” Address
- ❖ Commander in Chief of State National Guard
- ❖ May call General Assembly into special session

Types of Vetoes: Governor

- ❖ Regular Veto: the whole bill is rejected
- ❖ Amendatory Veto: changes part of a bill
- ❖ Reduction Veto: the appropriation (amount of money given) changes

Illinois Constitutional Officers

- Term length = 4 yrs
- Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti
 - Performs duties delegated by the governor
- Attorney General Lisa Madigan
 - Chief legal officer of the state
- Secretary of State Jesse White
 - Maintain state records; in charge of motor vehicle licenses

Illinois Constitutional Officers

- Comptroller Leslie Geissler Munger
 - Maintains fiscal (monetary) accounts; regulates money going in and out of accounts in the Treasury
- Treasurer Mike Frerichs
 - Invests and disburses (pays out) money upon order of the Comptroller

IL QUIZ 3

Judicial Branch & Local Gov't

Judicial Branch Details

- **Main duty:** Interpret laws
- Most State judges are elected by the people
- **Qualifications:** US Citizen, attorney, resident of the judicial district

Illinois Courts

- **Supreme Court: Includes 7 judges**
- Final court of appeal on state matters
- **Appellate Courts:** Hear appeals from lower courts
- **Circuit Courts:** General trial courts

Illinois Voting/Elections

- **Voting Age:** 18 yrs old (26th Amendment)
- **Primary Election:** Voters declare a party, and vote for members of that party only
- **General Election:** Each party's top candidates run against each other to win the office

Municipal (local) Government

- A **municipality** is a city, village or town created by the vote of the people to provide certain services
- **Services**: fire/police, culture and recreation, water and sewer, street construction, traffic regulations, building and zoning.

Types of Municipal Government: Common Forms

- **Mayor and Council:** the mayor is the executive; legislature is the council, made up of aldermen.
- **Trustee/Village:** Made up of 6 trustees (L) and a village president or mayor (E)
- **Commission:** Mayor (E) and 4 commissioners (L)