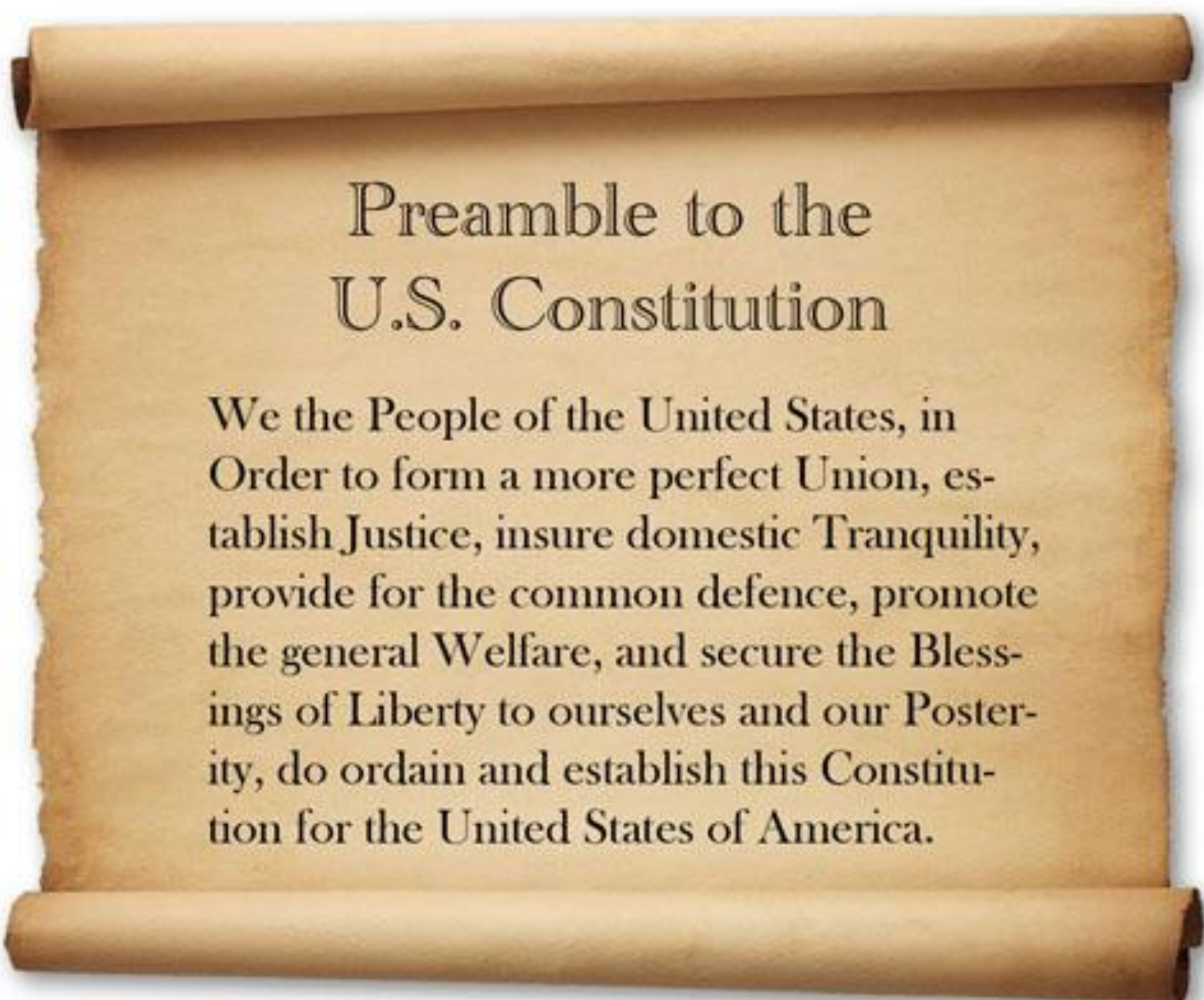


NC. Constitution

Subtitle

- We the people of the state of North Carolina, grateful to Almighty God, the Sovereign Ruler of Nations, for the preservation of the American Union and the Existence of our civil, political and religious liberties, and acknowledging our dependence upon Him for the continuance of those blessings to us and our posterity, do, for the more certain security thereof and for the better government of this State, ordain and establish this Constitution.

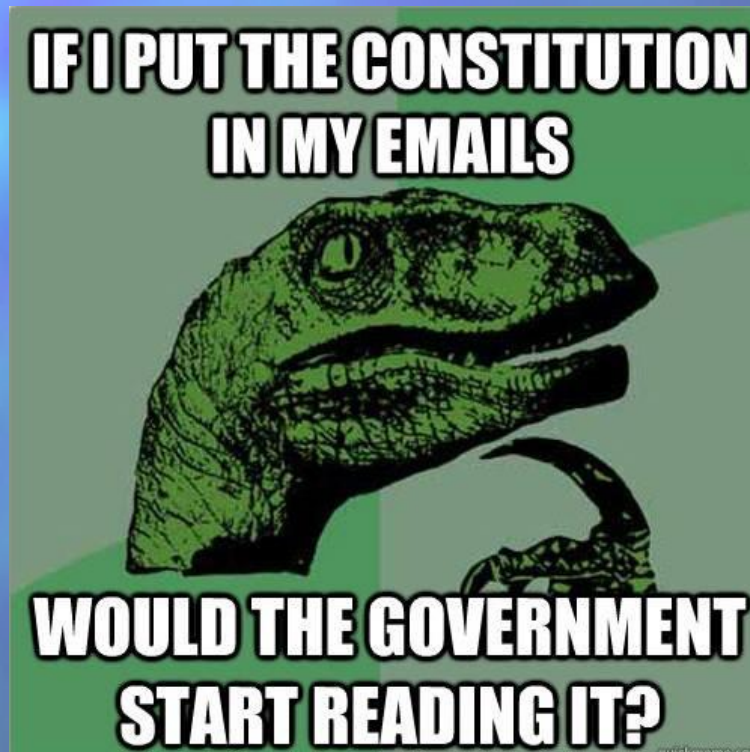
A scroll of aged, yellowish-brown paper with a slightly textured surface and irregular, deckled edges. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing the text. The top and bottom edges are rolled up. The background behind the scroll is a soft, out-of-focus blue and purple gradient.

Preamble to the 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.

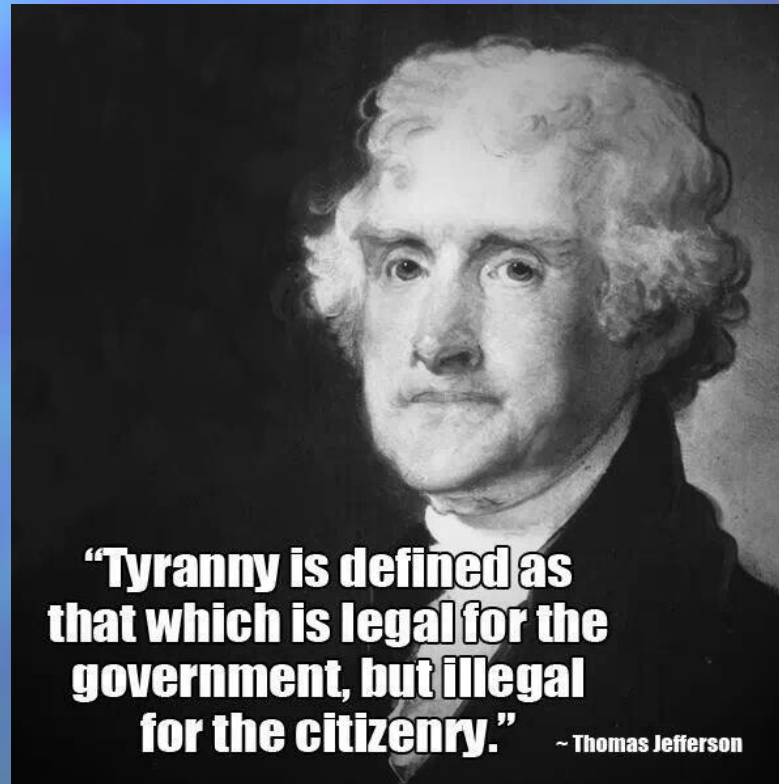
Dates

- NC Constitution was ratified in 1971 (our 3rd Constitution – earlier ones in 1776 and 1868)
- US Constitution signed in September, 1787



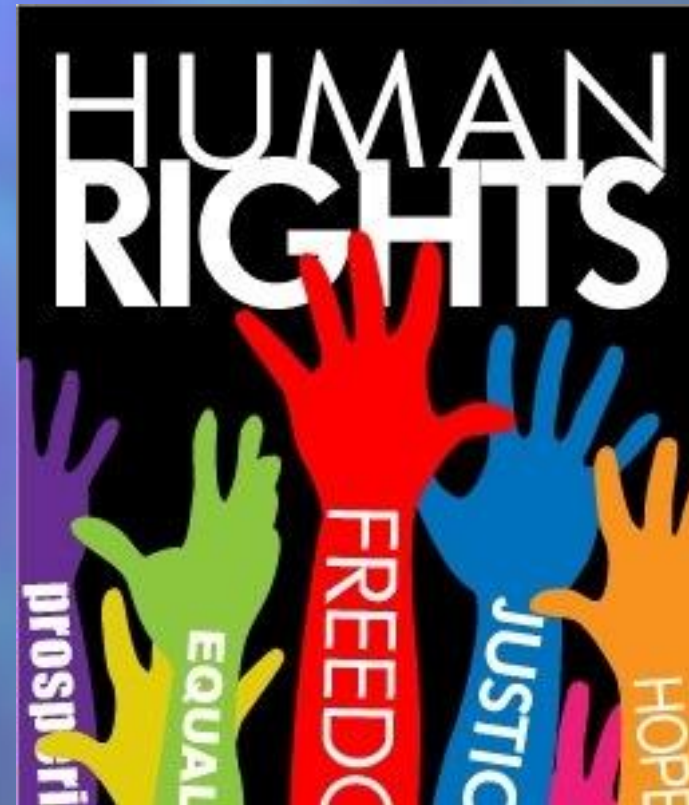
Similar principals of government

- Federalism, Separation of Powers, Checks and Balances, Popular Sovereignty, Limited Government, Rule of Law
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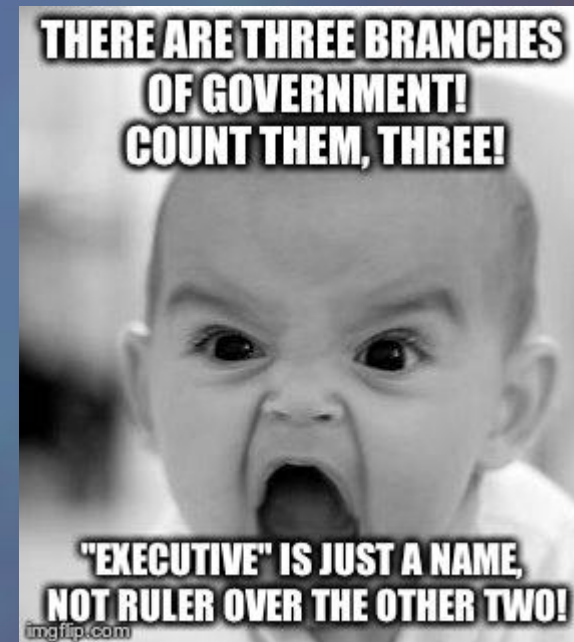
Similar Protections of rights

- Has a declaration of rights
- It includes most of what the Bill of Rights has, plus
 - Guarantees open elections
 - Right to free education
 - Rights of the victims of crimes
- Has a Bill of Rights (Amendments 1-10)



Same Branches of Government

- Creates 3 branches of government
 - N.C. General Assembly
 - N.C. Governor
 - N.C. Supreme Court
- Creates 3 branches of government
 - U.S. Constitution
 - U.S. President
 - U.S. Supreme Court



Comparison

- 3/5 of General Assembly propose a new amendment
- Sent to NC voters to ratify by majority rule in a referendum
- 2/3 of Congress Proposes
- ¾ of states approve (ratify) in State Conventions
- The public is NOT involved