



AMERICAN GOVERNMENT



POWER OF THE PURSE 2

1. ****According to Article 1, Section 7, Clause 1, where must all bills for raising revenue originate?***
 - a) The Senate
 - b) The Executive Branch
 - c) The House of Representatives
 - d) The Supreme Court

2. ****What role does the President play in the budget process?***
 - a) The President can veto the budget
 - b) The President can amend the budget
 - c) The President has no veto power but must sign the budget for money to be withdrawn
 - d) The President controls the budget entirely

3. ****Why does Madison argue that the President should not have veto power over the budget?***
 - a) It would give the executive branch too much power over government size
 - b) The President is not responsible for budgetary matters
 - c) The Senate already holds this power
 - d) The President can only approve legislative bills

4. ****What happens to the budget at the end of each fiscal year?***
 - a) It automatically continues into the next year
 - b) It expires, and the House must propose a new budget
 - c) The President must review and renew it
 - d) The Senate takes control of the new budget

5. ****Which section of the Constitution outlines the powers to tax, collect duties, and provide for the common defense and general welfare?***
 - a) Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1
 - b) Article 2, Section 3
 - c) Article 3, Section 2
 - d) Article 1, Section 7, Clause 1



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6. ****How does Madison describe the General Welfare Clause in Federalist 45?***
- a) As a general power for Congress to provide for the welfare of the states
 - b) As a limited power tied to the enumerated powers of the Constitution
 - c) As an unlimited power to allow Congress to tax and spend
 - d) As a grant of authority to the President to manage federal resources
7. ****What does Madison say would happen if Congress could interpret the General Welfare Clause as an unlimited power?***
- a) Congress would overextend its budgetary control
 - b) The Constitution would be transformed into a government without limits
 - c) States would gain more control over spending
 - d) The President would lose power over the budget
8. ****Which of the following is *not* a correct interpretation of the General Welfare Clause, according to Madison?***
- a) It allows for federal spending on general government programs
 - b) It requires equal treatment of all states in taxation and spending
 - c) It is not a grant of power but an explanation of the powers listed in the Constitution
 - d) It is tied to providing for the common defense of all states
9. ****What did Madison warn about the potential misuse of the General Welfare Clause by Congress?***
- a) Congress could use it to interfere with state and local governance
 - b) Congress would be unable to control its own spending
 - c) The clause would limit Congress's power over the executive branch
 - d) The clause would reduce federal involvement in education
10. ****Which government agencies today could be seen as a violation of Madison's interpretation of the General Welfare Clause?***
- a) Federal executive agencies with broad mandates funded by taxes
 - b) Agencies that manage interstate commerce
 - c) State-controlled departments managing local taxes
 - d) Organizations that only deal with foreign affairs



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Answer Key:

1. c) The House of Representatives
2. c) The President has no veto power but must sign the budget for money to be withdrawn
3. a) It would give the executive branch too much power over government size
4. b) It expires, and the House must propose a new budget
5. a) Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1
6. b) As a limited power tied to the enumerated powers of the Constitution
7. b) The Constitution would be transformed into a government without limits
8. a) It allows for federal spending on general government programs
9. a) Congress could use it to interfere with state and local governance
10. a) Federal executive agencies with broad mandates funded by taxes



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Discussion

1. **Why is it important for revenue bills to originate in the House of Representatives, and how does this reflect the principle of "power of the purse"?**
2. **What role should the President play in the federal budget process, and how does this differ from his role in other types of legislation?**
3. **How does Madison's interpretation of the General Welfare Clause limit federal power? Do you agree with his perspective?**
4. **Why did Madison believe it would be dangerous for Congress to have an unlimited power to spend under the General Welfare Clause?**
5. **How might modern interpretations of the General Welfare Clause lead to the creation of government agencies that Madison and the Founders did not intend?**