

State Constitutions Illustrated

The Most Comprehensive State Constitution Research Platform Available!

- **Over 11,000 current and historical constitutions** for all fifty states!
- Extensive collection of **pre-statehood primary material**
- Included at **no additional cost** for subscribers of HeinOnline's U.S. State Package!
- **More than 1,200 books** and more than 850,000 pages of related works to each state's constitutional history
- **Comprised of original and consolidated texts** heavily annotated with references to case law
- Perfect for anyone interested in comparative constitutional studies, **legal and political history of the United States**, or state-specific research
- Comprehensive collection of **multiple editions from various sources**

ABOUT THE DATABASE

HeinOnline's State Constitutions Illustrated is a collection of the **constitutions of the 50 states of the United States**, together with related documents and resources. Containing the text of every constitution that has been in force for every state with the original, consolidated and current texts and an extensive collection of documents from before statehood, State Constitutions Illustrated provides comprehensive coverage and allows researchers to compare multiple editions from multiple sources. It currently has **more than 11,000 historical and current constitutions and constitutional documents**, but if that isn't enough to satiate your state constitution research needs, don't worry—we're adding more!

From the Original 13 States:

- Letters patent
- Royal and proprietary instructions
- Treaties
- Letters and agreements
- Laws of proprietary and royal colonial legislatures
- And more!

From the Remaining States:

- Treaties
- Federal acts relating to specific territories
- Territorial laws of the governors and legislatures
- Letters and agreements
- Federal organic acts and enabling acts
- And more!

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COVERAGE OF THE STATES - *All 50 States Are Current as of the Elections on November 7, 2023*

As of January 2021, pre-statehood material is available for all 50 states:

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming

**Pre-statehood material will be updated monthly*

USING THE DATABASE

Selecting a State

The main landing page of State Constitutions Illustrated will bring users to a map view. To start your research, either stretch your geographical know-how and click the desired state on the map, or select the state name from the drop-down menu. Wondering about those black numbers on the map? The numbers and color coding denote the boundaries of the United States Courts of Appeals and United States District Courts.



(Note: U.S. territories that are part of these districts are not included on this map).

Searching a State

Within each state, users can expand each section to view constitutions with their amendments, original text, and other related documents. Links to scholarly articles are also available.

Annotations from the Editor

Notice the blue icons displayed next to documents? These **More Information** links are provided for every constitutional document in State Constitutions Illustrated. The information within them was written by the database's editor, helping guide researchers through the trove of documents provided.

The information given includes:

- Full title of the document
- Official reference number
- Publication date
- Source
- Source location
- Adoption date
- Language of origin
- Language of document

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Other Related Works and Scholarly Articles

State Constitutions Illustrated is more than the constitutions and amendments. Also included are hundreds of titles related to a state's constitutional development. Each state has its own **Other Related Works** section that houses these titles. Scroll under the constitution listing inside a given state to view these titles.

Click the **Scholarly Articles** button found in each state for a curated list of scholarship related to its constitutional development. Users will be taken to a list of full-text articles, which can be sorted using the facets at the top of the page, by **Article Title**, **Author**, **Most-Cited**, **Year (Newest First)**, or **Year (Oldest First)**.

The screenshot shows the 'State Constitutions Illustrated' website interface. On the left, the 'Texas (1813 -)' section is visible, with a 'Scholarly Articles' button highlighted in a red box. Below it, a list of titles is shown, including 'Constitution of Texas, 1875/1876' and 'Constitution of Texas, 1868/1869'. At the bottom of this list, an 'Other Related Works' button is also highlighted in a red box. On the right, the 'Scholarly Articles - Texas' page is shown, featuring a search bar, sorting options (Article Title, Author, Most-Cited, Year (Newest First), Year (Oldest First)), and a list of articles. The first article is 'State Constitutions in a Time of Crisis: The Case of the Texas Constitution of 1876 [article]' by Mauer, John Walker, cited by 14. The second is 'Texas Constitution of 1876 [article]' by Thomas, A. J. Jr.; Thomas, Ann Van Wynen, cited by 13. The third is 'The Recurring Constitutional Convention: Therapy for a Democratic Constitutional Republic Paralyzed by Hypocrisy [article]' by Hensler, Louis W. III, cited by 5. A red arrow points from the 'Scholarly Articles' button in the left panel to the 'Scholarly Articles - Texas' page on the right.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Jefri Jay Ruchti provided his editorial guidance to help develop State Constitutions Illustrated. Named for John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, Ruchti was born in Montreal, Canada, in 1949. He attended the University of Wisconsin, as had his grandfather, father, and brother, and also attended the University of Chicago. Ruchti began actively collecting the texts of historical and current constitutions in 1984, becoming an editor and translator under the mentorship of Gisbert H. Flanz (1916-2015), founding editor of *Constitutions of the Countries of the World*.

In addition to his academic work with constitutions, Ruchti has pursued an independent career as an artist, working primarily in dry media on Japanese paper, exhibiting his work widely in the United States. He lives with his wife, Leigh Whiteman, in Guilford, Connecticut.

"The State Constitutions Illustrated database is a treasure trove of information on constitutional histories. It has a clean, simple interface that allows the user to find primary documentation about how the United States acquired each state in the union."

- SEAN HARRINGTON, ELECTRONIC RESOURCES LIBRARIAN, ROSS-BLAKLEY LAW LIBRARY BLOG

For more information about this database, please contact your sales representative or Marketing at marketing@wshein.com or 800-828-7571.

