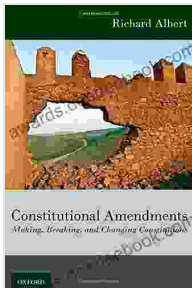


Constitutional Amendments: Making, Breaking, and Changing Constitutions

The United States Constitution is the supreme law of the land, and it has been amended 27 times since it was ratified in 1788. The process of amending the Constitution is a complex one, but it has been used to make significant changes to the document over the years.

The Amendment Process

The Constitution can be amended in two ways: by a vote of two-thirds of both the House of Representatives and the Senate, or by a constitutional convention called by Congress at the request of two-thirds of the states. Once an amendment has been proposed, it must be ratified by three-fourths of the states before it can become part of the Constitution.



Constitutional Amendments: Making, Breaking, and Changing Constitutions by Charles Moscovitz

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
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Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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The amendment process is designed to be difficult, so that the Constitution cannot be easily changed. However, it has been used to make some significant changes to the document over the years. For example, the First Amendment, which guarantees freedom of speech, religion, and the press, was adopted in 1791. The Thirteenth Amendment, which abolished slavery, was adopted in 1865. And the Nineteenth Amendment, which gave women the right to vote, was adopted in 1920.

Breaking the Constitution

The Constitution can also be broken, although this is a much more difficult process than amending it. The Constitution can be broken if the government violates its provisions, or if the people rise up in rebellion and overthrow the government. For example, the Constitution was broken during the Civil War, when the Confederate states seceded from the Union. And the Constitution was broken during the Watergate scandal, when President Nixon resigned in the face of impeachment.

Breaking the Constitution is a serious matter, and it can have far-reaching consequences. If the Constitution is broken, it can lead to chaos and instability. It can also damage the rule of law and make it difficult to protect the rights of citizens.

Changing the Constitution

The Constitution can also be changed, although this is not a process that is explicitly provided for in the document. The Constitution can be changed by interpretation, by custom, or by usage. For example, the Constitution has been changed by the Supreme Court's interpretation of its provisions. The Constitution has also been changed by custom, such as the tradition of the President delivering an annual State of the Union address to Congress.

Changing the Constitution is a less formal process than amending it, but it can still have a significant impact on the document. Changing the Constitution can expand or contract the rights of citizens, and it can change the balance of power between the different branches of government.

The Constitution is a living document that has been changed and adapted over time. The amendment process is designed to be difficult, but it has been used to make some significant changes to the document over the years. The Constitution can also be broken, although this is a much more difficult process. And the Constitution can also be changed, although this is not a process that is explicitly provided for in the document.

The Constitution is a complex and important document, and it is essential that we understand how it can be amended, broken, and changed. By understanding these processes, we can better protect the Constitution and ensure that it continues to serve as the supreme law of the land.

Additional Resources

- [The Constitution of the United States](#)
- [The Amendment Process](#)
- [The Constitutional Convention](#)
- [Constitutional Amendment](#)
- [Constitution of the United States](#)

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