



Constitutional Powers

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Expressed Powers (enumerated powers) and Constitutional Provisions

- gives congress power to do what ever is necessary and proper
- necessary and proper clause implies that congress has powers beyond those in the first seventeen clauses



Conflicting Interpretations

- Supreme court has to resolve conflicts over what is necessary and proper
- Powers of congress are limited
- Writ of habeas corpus- court order to release a person accused of a crime



Legislative Powers

- Power to pass laws and control the economy such as taxing, spending, and regulating commerce
- Power to levy taxes (“power of the purse”)
- Power to influence national policy
- **Revenue bills**- laws for raising money
- **Appropriation**- opposed laws to authorize spending money
- **National debt**- the total amount of money that government owes

Money Powers

- Has the power to coin money and regulate its value
- Bankruptcy
- Legal proceedings to administer the assets of a person or business that cannot pay its debt



MORE legislative powers

- Commerce power- interstate commerce among the states
- **Gibbons v Ogden**: key turning point for the expansion of federal powers
- **Heart of Atlanta Motel v United States**: US congress could use its commerce clause power to fight discrimination



NON legislative powers

- Powers that are not written down or interpreted completely
- Power to choose a president
- The power to remove any federal official from office
- The confirmation power
- The amendment power