

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

COLONIAL

Mayflower Compact (1620)

- First example of documented self-government in the colonies

Fundamental Orders of Connecticut (1639)

- First written constitution in America

Act of Toleration (1649)

- Religious freedom among Christians in Maryland

Acts of Navigation

- Mercantilist policies restricting trade between English colonies and England

REVOLUTIONARY ERA

Proclamation of 1763

- Restriction of colonial expansion west of the Appalachian Mountains to avoid war

Sugar Act (1764)

- Revenue tax applied to colonial merchants to offset French and Indian War debt

Stamp Act (1765)

- Direct tax on colonists for legal documents, newspapers

Tea Act (1773)

- Designed to provide a monopoly for struggling British East India Co. and threatened colonial merchants; led to Boston Tea Party

Intolerable Acts (1774)

- Coercive Acts limiting colonial representation in reaction to Boston Tea Party

Olive Branch Petition (1775)

- Last colonial offering of peace; King George III ruled colonies in rebellion

Lord Dunmore's Proclamation (1775)

- British offered slaves freedom in exchange for fighting against the colonists

Declaration of Independence (1776)

- Justification for independence with outlined natural rights and grievances against King George III and Parliament

Treaty of Paris (1783)

- British recognize American independence and lands east of the Mississippi are U.S.

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

CONSTITUTIONAL PERIOD

Articles of Confederation

- Loose alliance of states with weak central government with a unicameral legislature unable to tax or regulate interstate commerce
- Proven weak by Shays's Rebellion

Land Ordinance of 1785

- Grid system for townships in territory north of Ohio River

Northwest Ordinance of 1787

- Established precedent for statehood; prohibited slavery

Virginia Plan

- Big state plan of a bicameral legislature based on proportional representation

New Jersey Plan

- Small state plan of a unicameral legislature based on equal representation

Great Compromise aka Connecticut Compromise/Plan

- Bicameral legislature: House of Representatives based on proportional representation and Senate based on equal representation (2 per state)

Three-Fifths Compromise

- Each slave counted as 3/5ths a person and slave importation ended by 1808

Bill of Rights

- First ten amendments to Constitution as required by Anti-Federalists for ratification

GEORGE WASHINGTON (1789-1797)

Judiciary Act of 1787

- Established lower federal court system with district courts in each state

First Bank of the United States (1791)

- Central banking system to establish U.S. credit and manage finances
- Nation's capital in the South as deal for bank

Eleventh Amendment (1795)

- Citizen may not sue another state without state's consent

Jay's Treaty (1794)

- American sovereignty in Northwest Territory and favorable trade status with Britain

Pinckney's Treaty (1795)

- Spain recognized American trade rights on Mississippi River and in New Orleans

Washington's Farewell Address (1797)

- Avoid permanent alliance and political parties

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

JOHN ADAMS (1797-1801)

Alien and Sedition Acts (1798)

- Increased naturalization requirements and deportation of enemy aliens; prohibited criticism of federal government
- Reaction to XYZ Affair and designed to weaken Democratic-Republicans

Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions

- Reacting to Alien and Sedition Acts, established concept of states' rights of nullification of federal laws

Judiciary Act of 1801

- Increase federal court positions for Adams to fill (Midnight Judges)

AGE OF JEFFERSON

THOMAS JEFFERSON (1801-1809)

Marbury v. Madison (1803)

- Established judicial review

Louisiana Purchase (1803)

- Acquired land west of Mississippi River to Rocky Mountains from France for \$15M

Twelfth Amendment (1804)

- Revised Electoral College for separate ballots for President and VP

Embargo Act of 1807

- In response to impressments, prohibited foreign trade; led to recession

JAMES MADISON (1809-1817)

Nonintercourse Act of 1809

- Prohibit foreign trade with belligerents Britain and France

Macon's Bill No. 2 (1810)

- Prohibit foreign trade with either Britain or France if one promises to cease impressments and seizing American ships

Fletcher v. Peck (1810)

- First case to rule a state law unconstitutional and reinforce Contracts Clause

Treaty of Ghent (1814)

- Status quo before War of 1812

Tariff of 1816

- First major protectionist tariff to promote domestic industries

Second Bank of the United States (1816)

JAMES MONROE (1817-1825)

Rush-Bagot Treaty (1818)

- Demilitarized the Great Lakes between U.S. and Great Britain

McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)

- Second Bank of United States ruled necessary and proper and Maryland could not tax based on Supremacy Clause

Dartmouth College v. Woodward (1819)

- Upheld the colonial charter of Dartmouth College per the Contracts Clause

Adams-Onis Treaty (1819)

- Spain ceded Florida to U.S. and established western U.S. border

Missouri Compromise (1820)

- Missouri admitted as slave state and Maine as a free state; established 36'30 line, north free, south slave

Monroe Doctrine (1823)

- U.S. proclaimed Western Hemisphere free from European interference and further colonization

Gibbons v. Ogden (1824)

- Expanded interstate commerce power to include navigation

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS (1825-1829)

Tariff of Abominations (Tariff of 1828)

- High protective tariff triggering Nullification Crisis with South Carolina

AGE OF JACKSON

ANDREW JACKSON (1829-1837)

Indian Removal Act of 1830

- Land-exchange treaties with natives east of the Mississippi leading to forced relocation and Trail of Tears

Cherokee Nation v. Georgia (1831)

- Native tribes are not foreign nations and subject to federal jurisdiction

Worcester v. Georgia (1832)

- States prohibited from violating sovereignty of native tribal lands

Force Bill (1833)

- Authorized President Jackson to use military force against South Carolina to enforce the Tariff of 1828; led to tariff compromise

Specie Circular (1836)

- Land sales paid in gold or silver; major cause of Panic of 1837

MARTIN VAN BUREN (1837-1841)

Charles River Bridge v. Warren Bridge (1837)

- States rights victory as private contract cannot work to disadvantage of public

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

ANTEBELLUM

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON (1841)

JOHN TYLER (1841-1845)

Commonwealth v. Hunt (1841)

- Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled labor unions legal organizations and strikes as legal action

Webster-Ashburton Treaty (1842)

- Established northern boundary and Great Lakes border with Great Britain/Canada

Texas Annexation (1845)

- Joint resolution annexing Texas leading to border dispute and Mexican-American War

JAMES K. POLK (1845-1849)

Oregon Treaty (1846)

- Avoided “54’40 or Fight” and established 49th Parallel boundary in Oregon Territory

Wilmot Proviso (1846)

- Prohibited slavery in Mexican Cession; Rejected

Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848)

- Ended Mexican-American War; ceded California and American Southwest for \$15M

ZACHARY TAYLOR (1849-1850)

Clayton-Bulwer Treaty (1850)

- Established joint American-British effort to build a canal in Nicaragua

MILLARD FILLMORE (1850-1853)

Compromise of 1850

- California admitted as free state, reinforced Fugitive Slave Law, popular sovereignty in Mexican Cession, prohibited slave trade in D.C.

FRANKLIN PIERCE (1853-1857)

Gadsden Purchase (1853)

- Acquisition of territory on U.S.-Mexican border to eventually build a southern transcontinental railroad

Ostend Manifesto (1854)

- Secret negotiation attempting to acquire Cuba as a slave state from Spain

Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)

- Stephen Douglas negotiated popular sovereignty in Nebraska Territory and Kansas Territory; virtually dissolved Missouri Compromise and led to Bleeding Kansas, end of Whig Party, and beginning of Republican Party

Convention of Kanagawa (1854)

- As a result of Commodore Perry’s Expedition, opened up trade between Japan and U.S.

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

JAMES BUCHANAN (1857-1861)

Scott v. Sandford (1857)

- Blacks are not citizens, slaves are property, Missouri Compromise ruled unconstitutional

Lecompton Constitution (1857-1858)

- Pro-slavery Kansas constitution pushed by Buchanan and rejected by Congress

Crittenden Compromise (1860)

- Last-minute compromise to divide nation into free North and slave South; rejected

CIVIL WAR/RECONSTRUCTION

ABRAHAM LINCOLN (1861-1865)

Ex Parte Merryman (1861)

- Congress, not the President, may suspend habeas corpus

Confiscation Acts (1861-1862)

- Authorized Union generals to confiscate properties (slaves) as a means to free them

Trent Affair (1862)

- Union ship captured and arrested Confederate diplomats on British ships and released them to avoid war with Britain

Morrill Land Grant Act (1862)

- Created land-grant colleges for agriculture and mechanics education

Homestead Act of 1862

- Sold federal lands for \$10 for 160 acres and full ownership after five years of improvements

Pacific Railway Act (1862)

- Authorized construction of railroad between Union Pacific and Central Pacific Railroads to eventually complete first transcontinental railroad

Emancipation Proclamation (1863)

- Freed all Southern slaves

Enrollment Act of 1863

- Conscription allowing for substitutions and \$300 commutations

Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction (1863)

- Ten Percent Plan and pardons for Southerners except leaders and generals

Wade-Davis Bill (1864)

- 50% must take ironclad oath

Freedmen's Bureau (1865)

- Federal government assistance program for displaced former slaves and whites

ANDREW JOHNSON (1865-1869)

Thirteenth Amendment (1865)

- Abolished slavery

Ex parte Milligan (1866)

- Citizens may not be tried in military tribunals if civilian courts functioning

Reconstruction Acts of 1867

- Former Confederate states placed in military districts and readmission subject to ratification of 14th Amendment

Alaska Purchase (1867)

- Acquisition of Alaska from Russia; known as Seward's Folly or Seward's Icebox

Fourteenth Amendment (1868)

- Established Citizen Clause, Due Process Clause, Equal Protection Clause applied to states; punishments for former Confederate states not applying Civil War amendments; prohibited pardons for Confederate leaders

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

ULYSSES S. GRANT (1869-1877)

Fifteenth Amendment (1869)

- Right to vote for blacks

Slaughterhouse Cases (1873)

- Privileges and immunities only applied to federal government, not states

Coinage Act of 1873

- Removed silver from circulation and became known as the “Crime of 1873”

Civil Rights Act of 1875

- Equal protection for Blacks in public accommodations and transportation and prohibit jury service exclusion

Munn v. Illinois (1877)

- States allowed to regulate private businesses in matter of public interest; Granger laws

Compromise of 1877

- Hayes (R) becomes president and federal troops removed from the South

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GILDED AGE

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES (1877-1881)

Bland-Allison Act (1878)

- Reintroduced silver coinage

JAMES GARFIELD (1881)

CHESTER A. ARTHUR (1881-1885)

Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)

- Banned Chinese labor immigration for ten years and limitations for other Chinese immigrants

Pendleton Act (1883)

- Established Civil Service Commission and civil service exams

Civil Rights Cases (1883)

- Ruled Civil Rights Act of 1875 unconstitutional as segregation may be practiced by private businesses

GROVER CLEVELAND (1885-1889)

Wabash v. Illinois (1886)

- Limited states in regulating interstate commerce and overruled *Munn v. Illinois*

Interstate Commerce Act (1887)

- Established Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) to regulate railroad industries

Dawes Severalty Act (1887)

- Federal government provided land grants to individual natives with tribal land and established assimilation programs

BENJAMIN HARRISON (1889-1893)

Dependent Pension Act (1890)

- Provided pensions for Civil War veterans and their dependents

Sherman Antitrust Act (1890)

- Limit trust and monopolies and unfair competition; primarily used against labor unions

Sherman Silver Purchase Act (1890)

- Federal government purchased silver to increase money supply due to Free Silver movement to assist farmers and debtors

McKinley Tariff (1890)

- Record peacetime protectionist tariffs

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

GROVER CLEVELAND (1893-1897)

In re Debs (1895)

- Federal government use of federal troops and court injunctions constitutional in regulating interstate commerce; result of Pullman Strike

United States v. E.C. Knight Co. (1895)

- Manufacturing not included in interstate commerce regulation; weakened Sherman Antitrust Act

Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)

- Established “separate but equal” legitimizing segregation and Jim Crow laws

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PROGRESSIVE ERA

WILLIAM MCKINLEY (1897-1901)

Hawaii Annexation (1898)

Teller Amendment (1898)

- U.S. promised not to acquire Cuba if victorious against Spain

Treaty of Paris (1898)

- Ended Spanish-American War and U.S. acquired Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines

Open Door Policy (1899)

- U.S.-led policy to provide equal trade in China among great powers, respect Chinese territory and spheres of influence

Platt Amendment (1901)

- Allowed American unilateral influence in Cuban affairs and Guantanamo Bay

THEODORE ROOSEVELT (1901-1909)

Insular Cases (1901-1903)

- Constitutional provisions not applied to territories without Congressional consent; "Constitution does not follow the flag."

Newlands Reclamation Act (1902)

- Federal-funded irrigation projects for Western states

Elkins Act (1903)

- Prohibited railroad rebates strengthening the ICC

Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty (1903)

- Established Panama Canal Zone and allowed U.S. to construct Panama Canal

Northern Securities Co. v. United States (1904)

- Prevented formation of railroad monopoly

Roosevelt Corollary (1904)

- Expanded Monroe Doctrine to allow U.S. to intervene in Latin America to protect American interests

Treaty of Portsmouth (1904)

- Theodore Roosevelt negotiated peace between Japan and Russia after Russo-Japanese War; won Nobel Peace Prize

Lochner v. New York (1905)

- Ruled 10-hour workday for bakers unconstitutional

Hepburn Act (1906)

- Established bookkeeping regulations for railroad industries

Pure Food and Drug Act (1906)

- Prohibited mislabeling on consumer products and medicines

Meat Inspection Act (1906)

- Ensure sanitary conditions in meat processing plants

Gentleman's Agreement

- Japanese agreed to limit unskilled labor immigration in return for desegregated public schools in California

Muller v. Oregon (1908)

- Women authorized to work shorter hours for maternal reasons

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WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT (1909-1913)

Payne-Aldrich Tariff (1909)

- Increased protectionist tariffs despite intent to lower tariffs

Mann-Elkins Act (1910)

- Expanded ICC's powers to regulate telecommunication industries

Standard Oil Company of New Jersey v. United States (1911)

- Broke up Standard Oil Trust in 33 companies

Lodge Corollary (1912)

- Extended Monroe Doctrine to include all foreign powers from interfering in Western Hemisphere

Sixteenth Amendment (1913)

- Enacted a federal income tax

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

WOODROW WILSON (1913-1921)

Underwood Tariff (1913)

- Lowered tariffs

Federal Reserve Act (1913)

- Established Federal Reserve (“The Fed”) to regulate monetary policy

Seventeenth Amendment (1913)

- Direct election of U.S. Senators

Federal Trade Commission (1914)

- Enforce antitrust legislation and promote consumer protection

Clayton Antitrust Act (1914)

- Reinforced antitrust legislation; not applied to labor unions

Adamson Act (1916)

- Eight-hour workday and overtime for railroad workers

Keating-Owen Act (1916)

- Prohibited sale of interstate commerce goods produced by companies using child labor

Selective Service Act of 1917

- Authorized government to draft men for World War I without substitutions

Espionage Act of 1917

- Prohibited interference in military operations and draft, support for enemies, promote insubordination

Sedition Act of 1918

- Forbade disloyal, profane, scurrilous or abrasive language about the U.S. government

Hammer v. Dagenhart (1918)

- Determined Keating-Owen Act unconstitutional

Schenk v. United States (1918)

- Freedom of Speech not absolute if presents a “clear and present danger”

Fourteen Points (1918-1919)

- Promote self-determination, free trade, freedom of the seas, and a League of Nations

Eighteenth Amendment (1919)

- Prohibited manufacturing, sale, and transportation of alcohol

Volstead Act (1919)

- Enforced Prohibition and 18th Amendment

Nineteenth Amendment (1920)

- Granted women suffrage

ROARING TWENTIES

WARREN G. HARDING (1921-1923)

Emergency Quota Act (1921)

- Quota of 3% of 1910 Census immigrant populations

Fordney-McCumber Tariff (1922)

- Increased peacetime protectionist tariffs

Washington Naval Conference (1922-1923)

- Five Power Treaty: naval armament limitations: 5:5:3:1.75:1.75 applied to U.S., Great Britain, Japan, France, Italy

CALVIN COOLIDGE (1923-1929)

National Origins Act (1924)

- Quota of 2% of 1890 Census immigrant populations

Mellon's Tax Bill

- Revenue Acts of 1924, 1926, 1928
- Decreased tax rates for business and upper-class to support trickle-down economics

Kellogg-Briand Pact (1928)

- International agreement outlawing war as an offensive measure

HERBERT HOOVER (1929-1933)

Federal Farm Board (1929)

- Designed to stabilize and lower prices by holding on farm surpluses

Smoot-Hawley Tariff (1930)

- Record high protectionist tariff leading to retaliatory tariffs from other nations

Reconstruction Finance Corporation (1932)

- Federal-backed loans for banks and corporations to stimulate economy

GREAT DEPRESSION/NEW DEAL/WORLD WAR II

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (1933-1945)

Twentieth Amendment (1933)

- Lame-duck amendment moving inauguration from March to January

Emergency Banking Relief Act (1933)

- Federal government shut down banks, examined solvency, opened strong banks to ensure consumer confidence; part of Bank Holiday

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) (1933)

- Federal government hired young men on conservation projects to provide income to families

Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) (1933)

- Federal government provided farmers subsidies to limit production

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) (1933)

- Federal government-backed private corporation to develop Tennessee Valley infrastructure creating jobs, building jobs, generating cheap electricity

National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA) (1933)

- Established NRA to enforce business codes for fair competition and PWA to provide state and local relief jobs

Glass-Steagall Act (1933)

- Established banking regulation and the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to insure commercial deposits and prevent bank runs

Twenty-First Amendment (1933)

- Repealed Prohibition and the 18th Amendment

Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) (1934)

- Established stock market regulations

Federal Housing Administration (FHA) (1934)

- Federal government backed low-interest mortgages

Indian Reorganization Act (1934)

- Reversal of Dawes Severalty Act and return to local self-government for individual tribes

Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States (1935)

- NIRA ruled unconstitutional in violation of the Congressional interstate commerce power delegated to the executive branch

Works Progress Administration (WPA) (1935)

- Federal-funded state and local infrastructure projects and humanities projects (Federal One)

National Youth Administration (NYA) (1935)

- Federal-funded part-time jobs for students

Rural Electrification Administration (REA)

- Federal-funded effort to electrify rural sector through private electric companies

Social Security Act (1935)

- Federal social insurance program for retired workers, disabled, and dependents funded through payroll taxes

Wagner Act (1935)

- Legitimized collective bargaining for labor unions

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

Neutrality Acts (1935, 1937)

- Proclaimed neutrality, prohibited loans to belligerent nations, and established cash-and-carry

United States v. Butler (1936)

- AAA ruled unconstitutional in violation of Reserved Powers of 10th Amendment

Justice Reorganization Bill (1937)

- Roosevelt's court-packing scheme to appoint more New Deal-friendly justices

Fair Labor Standards Act (1938)

- Legalized 8-hour workday, overtime compensation, national minimum wage, and prohibited child labor

Hatch Act (1939)

- Restricted civil service employees from partisan political activity

Neutrality Act of 1939

- Cash-and-carry provisions applied to belligerent nations (France and Britain)

Selective Service Act of 1940

- First peacetime conscription for males aged 21-35, eventually 18-65 during war

Destroyers-for-Bases (1940)

- Old American warships exchanged to Britain for land rights in British territories

Lend-Lease Act (1941)

- U.S. provided loans and war materials to Allied nations during World War II

Executive Order 9066

- Authorized internment of Japanese immigrants and Japanese-Americans

Servicemen's Readjustment Act (G.I. Bill) (1944)

- Provided federal-funded college or vocational education for veterans

Korematsu v. United States (1944)

- Japanese internment camps ruled constitutional as a wartime measure

Smith v. Allwright (1944)

- Ruled white primaries unconstitutional

POST-WORLD WAR II

HARRY S. TRUMAN (1945-1953)

Taft-Hartley Act (1947)

- Restricted labor unions by outlawing closed shops and requiring prior notification of strikes

National Security Act (1947)

- Reorganized the military under the Department of Defense, established the National Security Council and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)

Executive Order 981 (1948)

- Desegregation of federal government and military

NSC-68 (1950)

- Recommended a foreign policy concentrated on an expanded military and government to contain communism

Twenty-Second Amendment (1951)

- Established limit of two presidential terms

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (1953-1961)

Brown v. Board of Education (1954)

- Desegregation of schools and overruled “separate but equal”

Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956

- Authorized the construction of the Interstate Highway System

Civil Rights Act of 1957

- Enforce voting rights for black; Strom Thurmond’s filibuster

Civil Rights Act of 1960

- Reinforced the voting rights provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1960

GREAT SOCIETY/CIVIL RIGHTS ERA

JOHN F. KENNEDY (1961-1963)

Twenty-Third Amendment (1961)

- District of Columbia granted three electoral votes in presidential elections

Mapp v. Ohio (1961)

- Unreasonable searches and seizures (4th Amendment) applied to the states

Gideon v. Wainwright (1963)

- Accused must be provided counsel (6th Amendment)

Clean Air Act (1963)

- Authorized federal government agency to monitor air pollution

LYNDON JOHNSON (1963-1969)

Twenty-Fourth Amendment (1964)

- Prohibited poll taxes

Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (1964)

- Joint resolution authorizing President Johnson to use any conventional force to assist the South Vietnamese against the Viet Cong

Civil Rights Act of 1964

- Outlawed major forms of discrimination based on race, gender, ethnicity, religion, and nationality

Voting Rights Act of 1965

- Outlawed various disenfranchisement laws and to enforce the 15th Amendment

Immigration Act of 1965

- Rescinded the quota laws

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (1965)

- Provided federal funding for public and private education

Social Security Act of 1965

- Established Medicare (health care for elderly) and Medicaid (health care for low-income families)

National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act (1965)

- Federal grants to promote the fine arts and humanities projects

Miranda v. Arizona (1966)

- Accused must be made aware of their rights prior to arrest and interrogation

Twenty-Fifth Amendment (1967)

- Presidential succession

Public Broadcasting Act (1967)

- Established the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) and National Public Radio (NPR) for non-commercial programming

Civil Rights Act of 1968/Fair Housing Act (1968)

- Prohibited discrimination in acquiring property

Bilingual Education Act (1968)

- Provide federal grants to assist local and state government to implement education programs for non-English speaking students

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

CONTEMPORARY ERA

RICHARD NIXON (1969-1974)

Tinker v. Des Moines (1969)

- Black armbands protesting the Vietnam Conflict protected as symbolic speech

Vietnamization (1969-1975)

- Policy to assist South Vietnamese to take over military operations and reduce U.S. involvement in Vietnam

Reorganization Plan No. 3 (1970)

- Established Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Occupational Safety and Health Act (1970)

- Established Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

Twenty-Sixth Amendment (1971)

- Citizens 18 years and older granted the right to vote

New York Times v. United States (1971)

- Prior Restraint only legal if the government can prove “grave and irreparable damage”; Pentagon Papers

War Powers Act (1973)

- President required to notify Congress within 48 hours to use military force for a period of 60 days and 30 day withdrawal period

Roe v. Wade (1973)

- Legalized abortion

United States v. Nixon (1974)

- Executive privilege does not extend to evidence in a criminal investigation (Watergate Tapes)

GERALD FORD (1974-1977)

JIMMY CARTER (1977-1981)

Camp David Accords (1978)

- Negotiated peace between Egypt and Israel

University of California Regents v. Bakke (1978)

- Race quotas ruled unconstitutional but race may be considered for admission

RONALD REAGAN (1981-1989)

Tax Reform Act of 1986

- Simplified the tax code, reduced tax brackets, and lowered income taxes

Immigration Reform and Control Act (1986)

- Owners could not knowingly hire illegal immigrants and granted amnesty to illegal immigrants who arrived before January 1982

GEORGE H.W. BUSH (1989-1993)

Americans with Disabilities Act ()

- Employers prohibited from discriminating against qualified candidates with disabilities

APUSH MAJOR GOVERNMENT ACTS/ORDERS/LEGISLATION

BILL CLINTON (1993-2001)

Family and Medical Leave Act (1993)

- Provided protection and unpaid leave for qualified medical and family reasons

Don't Ask, Don't Tell (1993)

- Military recruits and service personnel may not be asked about sexual orientation and should not divulge their sexual orientation or risk discharge

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) (1994)

- Established free trade between Canada, Mexico, and the United States

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act/Welfare Reform Act (1996)

- Required workforce development for welfare recipients

Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) (1996)

- Restricts federal marital benefits and marriage recognition to opposite-sex couples

Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (1999)

- Rescinded most of Glass-Steagall Act provisions on banking regulation

Bush v. Gore (2000)

- Florida voting recount ruled unconstitutional based on violation of equal protection since no uniform standards for each contested county; George W. Bush awarded Florida's electoral votes and presidency

GEORGE W. BUSH (2001-2009)

USA PATRIOT Act (2001)

- Expanded provisions for law enforcement and other agencies to investigate citizen, immigrant, and financial records to limit terrorism

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) (2002)

- Establish standards-based education reforms

Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act/McCain-Feingold Act (2002)

- Limit soft money and issue advocacy ads

BARACK OBAMA (2009-2017)

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (2009)

- Federal government stimulus package in response to Great Recession

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (2010)

- Mandates increased insurance coverage and prohibiting denial of coverage based on pre-existing conditions