

State Residency Amendment

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Description: This amendment would abolish the residency system and replaces it with a Mark 6 style of gubernatorial elections. This is done for two principal reasons: to prevent the kinds of shenanigans that residency generated in Mark 5, and to remove pressure from the Moderator team by not requiring them to track residency. This amendment also makes all governors equal to one another.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment for Referendum

Original Text to be Removed in Red & Strikethrough (~~Example~~)

Proposed Text to be Added in Blue

Constitution of Phoenicia

Article 0: Citizens

1. Every registered Democraciv voter is a Citizen of Phoenicia.

Article I: The Parliament

1. The Parliament and its Members are elected for a term of four weeks by the Citizens of Phoenicia .
 - 1.1. The maximum number of Members of Parliament is equal to the greatest of the following:
 - 1.1.1. Five (5).
 - 1.1.2. 20% of the votes cast in the election (rounded up).
 - 1.1.3. A number determined through any other method defined by law.
 - 1.2. In order to be elected as a Member of Parliament, a Candidate must obtain votes equal to or greater than the total number of votes cast in the election divided by the maximum number of seats in Parliament.
 - 1.3. Candidates may run individually or as part of ranked electoral lists.
 - 1.3.1. Votes for lists are distributed among the Candidates on the list in descending order of appearance, assigning each Candidate exactly enough votes to meet the threshold outlined in Subsection 1.2, until there are no more Candidates on the List or not enough votes to elect the next Candidate on the List.
 - 1.4. Candidates or Electoral Lists who have unused votes, either because they were elected with excess votes or were not elected with the votes they received, may redistribute those votes to other Candidates or Electoral Lists any time within 24

hours after the end of the election. After 24 hours, all unused votes are discarded and the Candidates who meet the threshold outlined in Subsection 1.2 at that time form Parliament.

- 1.4.1. The first Candidate on an Electoral List decides over leftover or surplus votes of the List.
2. The Parliament elects from its Members a Speaker for a term of four weeks.
 - 2.1. The Speaker is appointed to or removed from their office by a simple majority of Members in a secret ballot, for a term of four weeks.
 - 2.2. The Speaker manages the affairs and enforces the procedures of Parliament, in a manner prescribed by law.
 - 2.3. The Speaker appoints at least one Member of Parliament to be Vice Speaker for the duration of their term.
 - 2.3.1. Vice Speakers may aid the Speaker in the execution of their duties and powers.
 - 2.3.2. Vice Speakers can be removed by the Speaker at any time.
 - 2.4. No law or procedure of Parliament may prevent legislation proposed by the Speaker from coming to a vote in Parliament.
3. The Parliament may pass, repeal, or amend legislation about any matter not regulated by this Constitution by a simple majority vote in favor.
 - 3.1. Any action taken by the Parliament must have the approval of a simple majority of voting members, unless specified otherwise in this Constitution.
4. The Parliament may propose constitutional amendments for referendum by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote in favor.
5. The Parliament has the power to remove from office by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote in favor the following officials:
 - 5.1. The President
 - 5.2. Judges
 - 5.3. Governors
6. The Parliament has the power to determine procedures for its affairs.

Article II: Citizens' Initiatives

1. Citizens of Phoenicia may propose legislation as ballot initiatives.
 - 1.1. If this initiative obtains a number of signatures equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the votes in the last election, then the legislation will become a referendum in the next parliamentary or presidential election. It will pass if it obtains a simple majority in favor in that referendum.

- 1.2. Legislation passed by citizens in this manner may not be amended or repealed by the Parliament without the approval of all citizens in another referendum, or without a majority of $\frac{2}{3}$ in favor.
 - 1.3. The Parliament may preemptively, at the proposal of the Speaker, pass legislation pending referendum. This legislation remains subject to Subsection 1.2.
2. Amendments to the Constitution initiated by the Parliament must be approved by a simple majority in a popular referendum. The Speaker may schedule an irregular referendum for this purpose.
3. Citizens may propose Constitutional Amendments for referendum through petitions that receive the support of at least 7 citizens.
 - 3.1. Amendments to the Constitution initiated via petition must be approved by a four-sevenths ($\frac{4}{7}$) majority in a public referendum. The Speaker may schedule an irregular referendum for this purpose.

Article III: The President

1. The President is the Head of State.
2. The President is elected by a popular vote by all Citizens for a term of six weeks in a manner prescribed by law.
3. The President may refer any legislation that is passed by Parliament to the Constitutional Court if they have reasonable concern that it violates this Constitution. The Constitutional Court may then stay the enactment of the legislation pending a hearing to determine its constitutionality, if they believe that the concern over its constitutionality is reasonable.
4. The President may veto any legislation that is passed by Parliament with a majority less than 67% within 48 hours of its passage.
5. The President cannot hold any other constitutional office.

Article IV: The Cabinet

1. The Chancellor is the Head of Government and the presiding officer of the Cabinet.
 - 1.1. The Chancellor is appointed by Parliament upon nomination by the President, and serves until the next Parliamentary election or they are removed by a majority of Parliament.
 - 1.2. The Chancellor or their chosen deputy streams between 5 and 10 turns of the game weekly, or another number of turns approved by Parliament.
2. The Cabinet holds the following powers and duties, and executes them in a manner prescribed by law:
 - 2.1. It has control of all military units, trade units, and Great People.
 - 2.2. It has control over the treasury and faith.
 - 2.3. It chooses technologies and civics to be researched.

- 2.4. It conducts foreign relations and trade with other civilizations.
 - 2.4.1. Declarations of Wars or Alliances must be approved by Parliament.
- 3. The powers of the Cabinet may be distributed among several ministries.
 - 3.1. Ministries and their powers are established by the Chancellor with approval from Parliament.
 - 3.2. The Chancellor appoints and removes Ministers to lead the Ministries.
 - 3.3. Any power of the Cabinet not held by a Minister is held by the Chancellor.
 - 3.4. Any Member of the Cabinet may challenge a decision of another Member in the execution of their office.
 - 3.4.1. In the case of a challenge, the Cabinet holds a vote on the matter in question.
- 4. The Cabinet has the power to determine its own internal procedures.

Article V: The Constitutional Court

- 1. Every 6 weeks, Parliament appoints 3 Judges in a manner prescribed by law.
 - 1.1. Members of the Court may not hold any other constitutional office.
 - 1.2. Should a Judge resign or be removed from office, Parliament shall appoint a replacement.
- 2. The Court may rule on cases brought before it, or dismiss a case with a unanimous vote.
 - 2.1. The Court is to give special attention to cases where the constitutionality of the actions of any government official are in question.
- 3. If necessary, the Court may recommend or appoint counsel to a litigant.
- 4. Judges may also issue advisory opinions concerning legislation or executive action upon request from the Speaker, the President, or the Cabinet.
- 5. The Court has the power to determine its own internal procedures.

Article VI: States

- 1. Upon reaching the control of three Cities, Parliament must assign each City to a State.
 - 1.1. Before this point, all functions of States in relation to Phoenicia's Cities shall be handled by the Cabinet.
 - 1.2. Each State must have at least one City, must not have all Cities in Phoenicia, and must not have more than twice as many Cities as the smallest State.
 - 1.3. Cities may only be removed from a state with a $\frac{2}{3}$ supermajority vote by Parliament or with the approval of that State's Governor, except in the following circumstances:
 - 1.3.1. If a State's Cities violate the constraints listed in Subsection 1.2, Parliament may remove Cities from that State with a majority vote until they meet those constraints.

- 1.3.1.1. If a State's Cities violate the constraints listed in Subsection 1.2 for more than two consecutive weeks, the Cabinet must remove Cities from that State until they meet those constraints.
 - 1.3.2. If the Constitutional Court rules that a State's Cities are excessively discontiguous, are positioned in a manner to block off another State's borders, or are otherwise unreasonable, Parliament may remove the offending Cities from that State with a majority vote.
- ~~2. Every Citizen must choose any City to reside in:~~
 - ~~2.1. Citizens may change their residency no more than once in a timeframe of four weeks:~~
 - ~~2.2. Parliament may further regulate the movement of Citizens, but may not force a Citizen to move against their will, and may not regulate movement in a way which discriminates against any State:~~
 - ~~2.3. All Citizens are residents of the Capital City after the ratification of this Constitution:~~
3. The States are led by Governors, elected by popular vote ~~of their residents~~ every four weeks in a manner prescribed by law. Every citizen may only vote in one gubernatorial election every election cycle.
 - 3.1. Governors control all Builders and Settlers produced by Cities in their State.
 - 3.2. Governors control the production queue, districts, and citizen management of Cities in their State.
 - 3.2.1. Governors may not construct wonders without the approval of the Cabinet or of Parliament.
 - 3.3. The Cabinet, with the approval of the Parliament, may override a Governor and take direct control of an aspect of their State for one week.
 - 3.3.1. During wartime, the Cabinet may take direct control over the production queue of Cities in States if doing so is necessary or vital to the war effort.
 - ~~3.4. The Governor of the State containing the Capital City shall be a Member of the Cabinet:~~

Article VII: Rights and Freedoms

1. All elections must be free, fair, direct, and secret.
2. No Citizen shall be deprived of their right to vote in elections and stand for office.
3. All Citizens have the right to free expression, as long as said expression does not infringe upon the rights of others.
4. All Citizens have the right to a free, fast, and fair trial.
5. Citizens have the right to freely determine their affairs and actions within the bounds of the law and without unreasonable overreach by the law.

Article VIII: Ratification

1. This Constitution is ratified by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote in favor by Democraciv voters.
2. Upon ratification, the following legislation will be voted upon by the Parliament:
 - 2.1.  Ministry of the Treasury Act
 - 2.2.  Ministry of the Economy Act
 - 2.3.  Ministry of Philosophy Act
 - 2.4.  Ministry of Foreign Affairs Act