<u>CIR-USA</u> A Revised USA Constitution

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The Past is History, The Present is Real, The Future is Speculation

$\underline{\text{CIR-USA}}$ [1]

A Revised USA Constitution
Last edit: 9 December 2023
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ABSTRACT

A proposal to convert the existing Top-Down USA Government to a Bottom-Up alternative, involving a revision to the constitution. The time frame for this change is during 2024. The paper provides an historical perspective suggesting the USA is close to a period of insurrection, and urgent measures should be taken to avoid that possible event. A new system of variable flat taxation is proposed allowing for a continuously balanced budget.

1) Introduction:

When it comes to the constitution of the USA, "If it ain't broke don't fix it". Why is an Australian writing this article? Mainly because our security in the Asian region depends on a strong association with the United States.

As a land of 26 million people, we are capable of stoically defending our shores, but we cannot defend ourselves against a sustained invasion by a large foreign force without substantial help from the United States.

If you think the USA Constitution needs fixing, then here is a suggested "fix".

We can define the context for this paper: The following quote is copied from my book CIR-Australia, [2] and describes the history of some international nation life spans.

The following graph summarises major economic cycles since 1500 and is prepared by Ray Dalio in his book 'The Changing World Order'[3]. Australia is comparable to the US which shows a downturn since the mid 1900's, while China has rapidly increased, as shown in Exhibit 1.

¹ https://bosmin.com/ICS/CIR-USA.pdf

² https://bosmin.com/ICS/CIR-Australia.pdf

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Switzerland

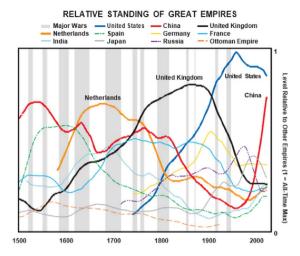


Exhibit 1.

This provides a frightening example of the apparent inevitability of great empires to decline over time. It also suggests the West has entered into a steep descent, while a second period of prominent standing awaits the Chinese Empire.

The rise and fall of great empires are further consolidated in Exhibit 2:

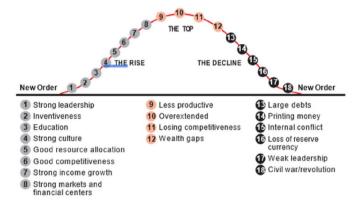


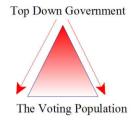
Exhibit 2.

Points 12 onwards are particularly important, because they can be controlled through a form of Bottom Up Government (BUG) embodying a system of direct democracy as discussed.^[4]

2) Bottom-Up Government (BUG).

The most common systems of government are varieties of the Top-Down version. The difference is graphically illustrated in Exhibit 3.

⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Switzerland



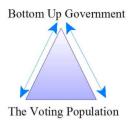


Exhibit 3.

Both systems (TDG) and (BUG) include constitutions, but the (BUG) alternative includes a provision for direct democracy, where any act of parliament can be challenged in a referendum by "the voting people" before it is enacted, or after it has been enacted. The result of the referendum is then written up as an amendment to the constitution.

The main benefits of (BUG) when compared to (TDG) are:

- 1) There is always a close association between the tax spenders and the tax payers. Thereby ensuring budgets are always kept within prescribed limits.
- 2) Politicians are exposed to overt accountability through recall provisions embedded in the constitution. This ensures promises made during election campaigns are kept in penalty of losing the appointment.

3) Voting Procedures.

Secure voting is the most critical requirement for a democracy to exist. The following points are relevant:

- 3.1 Voting is not compulsory, in the US. This leaves the potential for a big security hole in the voting records which ideally needs closing. Compulsory voting ensures there are no 'votes for sale', because the registered holder of the vote can suffer a financial penalty if their vote is not recorded.
- 3.2 'Harvested' votes lodged in bulk are ignored, and not counted as legitimate votes.
- 3.3 The voter register needs to be as rigorous as possible. One method for doing this is to make the US Postal Service responsible for maintaining the national voter data base, because people changing their postal address often defer changing their voter details.
- 3.4 The results are 'first past the post' interpretation, rather than the 'preference' alternative. This requirement ensures vote manipulation is excluded, and vote counting is simplified.
- 3.5 Paper voting is used exclusively on the nominated day. An absentee ballot can be requested by a registered voter, using the postal service to conduct this service.

Unfortunately, recent security issues evident with the internet [5] means that reliable voting procedure must utilise the previous hand written and paper approach. This means that postal votes can only be accepted when requested by a verified registered voter. All the other votes must be cast on voting day, and counted by hand with scrutineers present and capable of close observation. Local area networks may be required to guard against multiple voting issues, and vote counting can be controlled by weighing vote piles.

Similar criticism of the US system is reported at the YouTube site.

4) USA Government.

Looking at the broad history of the USA since the war of independence we note some critical points of world comparison.

The American Revolution of 1776 predates the French Revolution of 1789, but was so different in that the American revolution divided America, lasting to this day. History has clearly defined various periods of social unrest through the ages - all of which resulted in a form of top-down government. This comment includes the communist states.

The American path has resulted in two competing forms of (TDG) government - Republican and Democrat. The competition is now so aggressive that another revolution seems possible.

My interest is in the alternative (BUG) form of leadership, which has applied in Switzerland over hundreds of years. It dates to the Federal Charter of 1291 - following a period of anarchy - that is considered as the country's founding document. This was some 485 years before the American revolution. Switzerland's constitution was consolidated in 1848 and 1999 forming the Swiss Constitutions. [6] These define a system of direct democracy that has offered lasting stability, whereas the (TDG) forms have universally, only offered temporary relief before some new form of autocracy appears.

This is an extremely rare example of positive political change, and is unique from what I can tell. Other periods of insurrection have resulted in another form of (TDG), also with limited life. We only get one chance in a top-down democracy to change this, and that is at a general election - assuming it is a reasonably fair vote.

Change can only occur when both major parties are following unpopular policies. In Australia - that is now. Both major parties achieved less than 40% of the vote, and government requires the support of 'Independents'. This situation provides an opportunity for a minor party to get a 'rails run' by promoting election material saying "we actively support CIR". If this deliberately obscure message has the desired effect, (which is to start a conversation on what CIR involves) it could result in a minor party holding the balance of power.

 $^{^5\} https://bosmin.com/ICS/KevinLoughreyEmailApril2023.pdf$

⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Charter_of_1291

The basic differences between the two forms of government is that (BUG) unlocks the combined intelligence of the whole community. Top-down government restricts intelligent input from only the elites. Also, as previously noted, (TDG) administration effectively separates the spenders from the tax payers, in stark contrast to a bottom-up system. This effectively results in a nation with unsustainable national debt, and further incursions into peoples' savings.

The current arrangement of senior USA government instruments is summarised in Exhibit 4.[7]

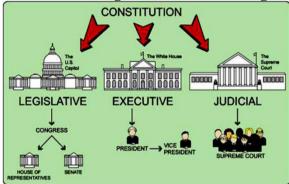


Exhibit 4.

The State government responsibilities are illustrated in Exhibit 5.[8]

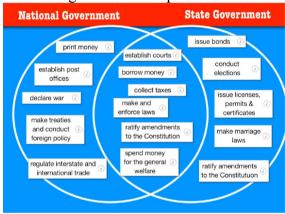


Exhibit 5.

5) USA Bottom Up Government Model.

- 1. A notable change to (BUG) would see the House of Representatives duties transferred exclusively to the State governments, together with 261 members. This gives a total of 696 Senators which is designed to provide 2/3rd coverage when 1/3rd of the Senate stand for election every two years.
- 2. The remaining State Senate houses would transfer their duties to the Federal Senate where ratification of State laws would be limited to ensuring compatibility between the States and the Constitution.
- 3. The President and Vice President positions becomes symbolic in that the individuals

⁷ https://carbajalscrazyclassroom.blogspot.com/2016/09/

 $^{^{8}\} https://learninginhand.com/stickaroundblog/2013/12/29/federalism-national-state-government-powers$

are chosen from the elected Senators through an internal election procedure. This is similar to the original concept which states:[9]

The presidency of the United States include serving as commander in chief of the armed forces; negotiating treaties; appointing federal judges, ambassadors, and cabinet officials; and acting as head of state.

The President is chosen by a majority vote of the Senate, and serves until another President is selected by the Senate. The President selects his own Deputy from the elected senators.

4. The Judiciary remains separate to the Senate and President and interprets, evaluates federal constitutional law as well as leading the other courts, as is the current situation. However, the Judiciary is also subject to constitutional changes determined through the referendum process.

These revised responsibilities are summarised in Exhibit 6.

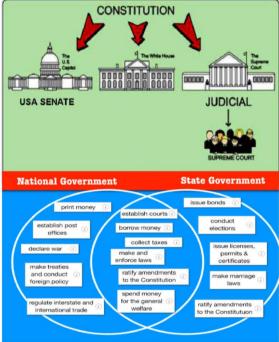


Exhibit 6.

The Senate numbers are increased to cater for the increased work load, and the Electoral College allocation of senators is revised as an average between the number of people and the km² area of that State. This change recognises that a large, remotely inhabited land area will require more funds allocated to infrastructure development. The Front Cover image,[10] and allocations with proposed modifications show in Exhibit 7:[11]

⁹ https://www.britannica.com/place/United-States/The-executive-branch

 $^{^{10}\} https://www.orangesmile.com/common/img_country_maps/usa-map-2.jpg$

 $^{^{11}\} https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_U.S._stat$

Name		opulation	Land Area km2	Number of House of Reps	Average Pop and Area	Allocation Of Senators
Alabama	AL	5,079,321	131,171	7	2,605,246	11
Alaska	AK	741,425	1,477,953	1	1,109,689	4
Arizona	ΑZ	7,229,849	294,207			15
Arkansas	AR	3,044,516	134,771	4		6
California	CA	39,971,375	403,466			82
Colorado	CO	5,836,967	268,431	8		12
Connecticut	CT	3,645,448	12,542			7
Delaware	DE	1,000,793	5,047	1	502,920	2
Florida	FL	21,774,143	138,887	28		44
Georgia	GA	10,829,260	148,959			22
Hawaii	HI	1,471,214	16,635	2		3
Idaho	ID	1,859,254	214,045	2		4
Illinois	IL	12,952,872	143,793		6,548,333	27
Indiana	IN	6,859,865	92,789			14
lowa	IA	3,225,320	144,669			7
Kansas	KS	2.970.065	211,754			6
Kentucky [B]	KY	4,555,199	102,269			9
Louisiana	LA	4,708,784	111,898			10
Maine	ME	1,377,284	79,883			3
Maryland	MD	6,244,897	25,142			13
Massachusetts [B]	MA	7,106,932	20,202			14
Michigan	MI	10,187,731	146,435			21
Minnesota	MN	5,769,010	206,232			12
Mississippi	MS	2,993,721	121,531	4		6
Mississippi	MO	6,222,342	178,040			13
Montana	MT	1,096,103	376,962			3
Nebraska	NE	1,982,993	198,974			4
Nevada	NV	3,138,626	284,332			7
New Hampshire	NH	1,392,620	23,187	2		3
New Jersey	NJ	9,390,757	19,047	12		19
New Mexico	NM	2,140,720	314,161	3		5
New York	NY	20,422,559	122,057	26		42
North Carolina	NC	10,553,754	125,920	14		22
North Dakota	ND	787,629	178,711	1	483,170	2
Ohio	OH	11,928,714	105,829			24
Oklahoma	OK	4,002,729	177,660	5		8
Oregon	OR	4,002,729	248,608			9
Pennsylvania [B]	PA	13,145,148	115,883		6,630,515	27
Rhode Island	RI	1,109,401	2,678			27
South Carolina	SC	5,174,499	77,857	7	2,626,178	11
South Dakota	SD	896.381	196,350		546.365	2
Tennessee	TN	6,986,550	106,798			14
Texas	TX	29,464,802	676,587	38		61
Utah	UT	3,307,457	212,818			7
	VT			1	.,	1
Vermont	VA	650,122 8,725,952	23,871 102,279	11	336,997 4,414,116	18
Virginia [B]						
Washington	WA	7,789,694	172,119			16
West Virginia	WV	1,813,367	62,259	2		4
Wisconsin	WI WY	5,958,285	140,268			12
Wyoming	Total	583,171 334,383,295	251,470 9,147,436	435	417,320 171,765,366	696

Exhibit 7.

The Senate is also responsible for national security, international dependencies, collecting and distributing taxation, foreign affairs, providing national voting services, and administering to remote territories.

The Senate also has a role in providing an administration option, on a temporary basis, to replace any State Government which operates in a way that runs counter to the Constitution.

6) Taxation.

Assessing and paying income and company tax is very big business in most jurisdictions. Tax codes includes implied social messaging which contributes to political influence.

The Employment Investment Tax (EIT)[12] is specifically designed for the Australian market, but is adaptable to other nations. It proposes replacing all existing tax collection points at State, Local, and National Government levels, with a single tax collected by the Senate for subsequent distribution to the various levels of government.

 $^{^{12}\} https://bosmin.com/EmploymentInvestmentTaxProposal.pdf$

It also provides low wage, and automatic access to the first step on the employment ladder for young people over the age of fifteen years. This avoids adding expense related taxes to low income earners. Older under employed people also gain automatic access to the low wage provision. The situation with the 401(k) tax plans need reviewing in light of the EIT proposal.

Current tax systems often reward maximising deductible expenses, whereas the EIT solely rewards increased employment through tax deductibility.

EIT is a flat tax which varies on an annual basis to match the proposed national budget. This ensures government spending is always in balance with the available income. Both individual and company tax calculations are made on a monthly basis, and follow the same logic. The EIT return follows a single page format as shown in Appendix A, of the EIT proposal.

7) The CIR Mechanism.

Citizens Initiated Referendum (CIR) provides the mechanism for 'the people' to ensure accountability is always available to them for those chosen to serve 'the people'. Further discussion on the topic, as applicable to Australia, is at 'Australian Constitution' - Section 128 Modification.[13]

The relevant paragraph proposed to be included in the constitution states:

The proposed law for the alteration, initiated by a group of Australian Citizens not less than 1% of the Australian population at Territory, State, or Commonwealth levels as applicable signing an Initiating Petition (IP) within a five-month period, and the proposed law shall be submitted in each Territory, State, or Commonwealth as applicable to the electors qualified to vote for a simple majority, within a contiguous period of less than six months.

The six month period suggests that amendments to the constitution could occur twice a year. Early in the life of (BUG), we can expect a steady flow of suggested modifications followed by a settled period of consolidation.

An Initiating Petition (IP) contains the proposed law for alteration, a discussion of the proposal, together with "For" and "Against" assessment of the changes. The IP to be legibly signed and witnessed by all initiating persons, or electronically signed.

The IP must be supported by not less than 1% of the eligible populations at State or national level as applicable, before the issue can be presented to the voting public.

More than one IP may be proposed at the same time, with each IP addressing a single proposed law for alteration.

CIR voting requires a simple majority of votes to be successfully carried. That may be less than 50% if several voters opt out of voting.

¹³ https://bosmin.com/Section128.pdf]

No issue can be voted again within a 5-year period of a previous similar IP proposal.

Registered voters always retain a constitutional right to recall their State or Senate candidates.

8) USA Change from (TDG) to (BUG) Procedure.

The aim is to accomplish this change with a minimum disruption to both government and the people, and certainly without incurring a period of anarchy.

A future opportunity will occur when the next Presidential election campaign starts in 2024. Before that time, the proposed changes to the constitution should be carefully studied by a small panel of nine selected experts.

The critical inputs will come from a noted Swiss national, and eight Americans including, a taxation lawyer, a constitutional lawyer, and six balanced representatives from 'we the people'.

At an appropriate time, and before the 2024 election, the results of the panel's report should be made public.

In January 2025 the House of Reps could be closed and the Senate allocated the enlarged numbers, partly made from displaced Reps, using an analysis of the voting returns to make the cutoff selections. State governments check for job openings to accommodate the extra work transferred to them.

In March 2025 the President and Vice President as elected from the Senate be inaugurated.

Keywords:

Ray Dalio, Chinese Empire, Bottom-Up Government, (BUG), Top-Down Government, (TPG), data roll, American Revolution, 1776, French Revolution, 1789, Swiss Federal Charter, 1291, CIR, Initiating Petition, IP