

THE TEXAS STATE CONSTITUTION

A Reference
Guide

Juanita C. May

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The Texas State Constitution Janice C. May, 2011-04-15 The Texas State Constitution provides an outstanding constitutional and historical account of the state's governing charter. In addition to an overview of Texas constitutional history, this volume provides an in-depth section-by-section analysis of the entire constitution, detailing the many significant changes that have been made since its initial drafting. This treatment, along with a table of cases, index, and bibliography, provides an unsurpassed reference guide for students, scholars, and practitioners of Texas constitution. Previously published by Greenwood, this title has been brought back in to circulation by Oxford University Press with new verve. Reprinted with standardization of content organization in order to facilitate research across the series, this title, as with all titles in the series, is set to join the dynamic revision cycle of *The Oxford Commentaries on the State Constitutions of the United States*. The *Oxford Commentaries on the State Constitutions of the United States* is an important series that reflects a renewed international interest in constitutional history and provides expert insight into each of the 50 state constitutions. Each volume in this innovative series contains a historical overview of the state's constitutional development, a section-by-section analysis of its current constitution, and a comprehensive guide to further research. Under the expert editorship of Professor G. Alan Tarr, Director of the Center on State Constitutional Studies at Rutgers University, this series provides essential reference tools for understanding state constitutional law. Books in the series can be purchased individually or as part of a complete set, giving readers unmatched access to these important political documents.

State Constitutions for the Twenty-first Century, Volumes 1, 2 & 3 G. Alan Tarr, Frank P. Grad, Robert F. Williams, 2007-06-01 *State Constitutions for the Twenty-first Century Volume 1: The Politics of State Constitutional Reform*, *State Constitutions for the Twenty-first Century Volume 2: Drafting State Constitutions, Revisions and Amendments*, *State Constitutions for the Twenty-first Century Volume 3: The Agenda of State Constitutional Reform*. *State Constitutions for the Twenty-first Century, Volume 3* G. Alan Tarr, Robert F. Williams, 2012-02-01 This third and final volume in a series devoted to state constitutions analyzes how these documents address major constitutional issues such as the protection of rights, voting and elections, constitutional change, the legislature, the executive, the judiciary, taxing, spending, and borrowing, local government, education, and the environment. Contributors identify the strengths and weaknesses of current state constitutions, highlight the major issues confronting the states, and assess various approaches for reform.

Understanding State Constitutions G. Alan Tarr, 2018-06-05 For many Americans, the word constitution means just one thing: the national Constitution. According to a recent survey, almost half do not know that individual states also have constitutions. Scholars have also paid little attention to state constitutions, favoring the apparently more dynamic and significant federal scene. G. Alan Tarr seeks to change that in this landmark book. A leading authority on state legal issues, he combines history, law, and political science to present a thorough and long-needed account of the distinct and important role of state constitutions in American life. Tarr shows that state constitutional politics are

dominated by three crucial issues with little salience at the national level the distribution of power among groups and regions within states the scope of state and local governmental authority and the relation of the state to economic activity He explains how state constitutions differ from the national Constitution in treating not only matters of high principle but also such mundane subjects as ski trails and motor vehicle revenues He also explores why state constitutions unlike their federal counterpart have been so frequently amended and replaced Tarr concludes that the United States not only has a system of dual constitutionalism but also has dual constitutional cultures Powerfully argued and meticulously researched the book fills an important gap in political and legal studies and finally gives state constitutions the scholarly attention they richly deserve

The American State Constitutional Tradition John J. Dinan, 2006-04-14 For too long the American constitutional tradition has been defined solely by the U S Constitution drafted in 1787 Yet constitutional debates at the state level open a window on how Americans in different places and at different times have chosen to govern themselves From New Hampshire in 1776 to Louisiana in 1992 state constitutional conventions have served not only as instruments of democracy but also as forums for revising federal principles and institutions In *The American State Constitutional Tradition* John Dinan shows that state constitutions are much more than mere echoes of the federal document The first comprehensive study of all 114 state constitutional conventions for which there are recorded debates his book shows that state constitutional debates in many ways better reflect the accumulated wisdom of American constitution makers than do the more traditional studies of the federal constitution Wielding extraordinary command over a mass of historical detail Dinan clarifies the alternatives considered by state constitution makers and the reasons for the adoption or rejection of various governing principles and institutions Among other things he shows that the states are nearly universal in their rejection of the rigid federal model of the constitutional amendment process favoring more flexible procedures for constitutional change they often grant citizens greater direct participation in law making they have debated and at times rejected the value of bicameralism and they have altered the veto powers of both the executive and judicial branches Dinan also shows that while the Founders favored a minimalist design and focused exclusively on protecting individuals from government action state constitution makers have often adopted more detailed constitutions sometimes specifying positive rights that depend on government action for their enforcement Moreover unlike the federal constitution state constitutions often contain provisions dedicated to the formation of citizen character ranging from compulsory schooling to the regulation of gambling or liquor By integrating state constitution making with the federal constitutional tradition this path breaking work widens and deepens our understanding of the principles by which we've chosen to govern ourselves

The Law of American State Constitutions Robert F. Williams, Lawrence Friedman, 2023 The second edition of *The Law of American State Constitutions* provides complete coverage of the legal doctrines surrounding applying to and arising from American state constitutions and their judicial interpretation Drawing on examples from specific states Professors Williams and Friedman analyze the nature and function

of state constitutions in contrast to the federal Constitution including rights separation of powers issues of interpretation and the processes for amendment and revision In this edition Williams and Friedman focus on recent developments including the state constitutional dimensions of same sex marriage and the reaction of state courts to U S Supreme Court decision making This edition of *The Law of American State Constitutions* remains an important analytical tool that explains the unique character and the range of interpretive approaches to these constitutions It covers the structure of state governments under state constitutions as well as the distribution of powers among the legislative executive and judicial branches Like the first edition this edition presents a complete picture of state constitutional law and the attributes and features that make this body of law so distinctive **State Constitutions for the Twenty-first Century, Volume 2** Frank P. Grad, Robert F.

Williams, 2006-06-01 Identifies problems reformers face in drafting or amending state constitutions *The Constitution of the State of Texas* Timothy Ball, 2018-07-27 This book is intended as a Quick Reference Guide It is part of a series of books with each volume covering one of the 50 US states Each book presents the text of the state's constitution in a straightforward and easy to read format For citizens students legislators judges or merely the curious This edition has been revised and updated with a clear and easy to read table of contents The updated format facilitates quick reference to every section and article Finally this book series is completed by a separate set of additional volumes which serves as an appendix These appendix volumes contain just a listing of article titles of each individual state broken down by geographic region *Legal Information Buyer's Guide and Reference Manual 2006* Kendall F. Svengalis, 2006 **Lone Star Politics, 3rd Edition** Ken Collier, Kenneth E. Collier, Steven Galatas, Julie Harrelson-Stephens, 2013-02 Lone Star Politics delves into the state's rich political tradition by exploring how myth often clashes with the reality of everyday governance Explaining who gets what and how within the state this Nacogdoches author team provides an engaging narrative on the evolution of Texas politics utilizing the comparative method to set Texas in context with other states constitutions policymaking electoral practices and institutions Responding to user demand Ken Collier Steven Galatas and Julie Harrelson Stephens have split or added chapters to provide more in depth coverage of much desired topics including the legislature and legislative process the governor and bureaucracy parties and organized interests as well as fiscal criminal justice and social policy In addition new chapter objectives and critical thinking questions reinforce learning and encourage analysis Beyond more depth and breadth the new third edition now features a full color design Lone Star Politics delivers well crafted and colorful content without breaking the bank

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