

### **Age Discrimination in Employment Act (1967)**

Banned age discrimination in jobs unless age is related to job performance.

### **Air Quality Act (1967)**

The beginning of a series of acts to regulate impacts on the environment

### **Alien and Sedition Acts**

1798

Four different laws which Federalists said would unite and protect the country when in reality they were meant to weaken the Republican Party

### **Americans With Disabilities Act (1990)**

Protected civil liberties of disabled Americans and mandated "reasonable accommodations" to public facility use.

### **Budget and Impoundment Control Act (1974)**

Legislation creating the Congressional Budget Office and requiring congressional approval for the president's use of impoundment.

### **The Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act**

2002

A United States federal law that amended the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, which regulates the financing of political campaigns.

### **Civil Rights Act**

1964

Outlawed segregation in public accommodations, prohibited discrimination in employment on the basis of race, religion, or sex, Attorney General could force desegregation of schools - most far reaching piece of civil rights legislation in American History

### **Civil Rights Act (1968)**

Banned housing discrimination based on race.

### **Clayton Anti-Trust Act**

1914

Hailed by organized labor as a great victory:

- a) declared labor and farm organization legal
- b) prohibited the court from granting an injunction unless necessary to prevent injury to property
- c) declared strikes, picketing and boycotts legal

### **Coercive Acts (1774)**

Called the Intolerable Acts by colonists, restricted rights of colonist in Mass. to hold town meetings, required all colonists to provide food and housing to British soldiers living in colonies

**Dawes Act**

1887

Provided that each male head of an Indian family could claim 160 acres of land as his own which they could not sell or lease.

**Espionage Act**

1917

Aimed at treasonable and disloyal activities.

**Federal Election Campaign Act (1974)**

Law passed in 1974 for reforming campaign finances. The act created the Federal Election Commission (FEC), provided public financing for presidential primaries and general elections, limited presidential campaign spending, required disclosure, and attempted to limit contributions.

**Federal Reserve Act**

1913

Established 12 Federal Reserve banks that provided services only for member banks. The Federal Reserve could transfer money to member banks in times of crisis so people would not lose saving and bank would not fail. THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM PROVIDED A MORE ELASTIC CURRENCY BY PUTTING MORE MONEY INTO CIRCULATION OR WITHDRAW MONEY FROM CIRCULATION DEPENDING UPON THE NEEDS OF THE TIME.

**Freedom of Information Act (1974)**

Act which declassified government documents for public use.

**Gramm Rudman Hollings Bill (1985)**

Set budget reduction targets to balance budget. Failed to eliminate loopholes.

**Hatch Act (1939)**

Permitted government employees to vote in government elections but forbade them from participating in partisan politics.

**Homestead Act**

1862

Gave 160 acres of land to anyone who paid a small registration fee and lived on this land as a homestead for 5 years.

**Immigration Act (1924)**

Limited number of immigrants coming into the US.

**Interstate Highway Act**

1955

Federally funded construction of 41,000 miles of expressway in U.S.

### **Judiciary Act**

1789

Established the basic structure of the federal court system, a Chief Justice and 5 associate justices. It also gave the Supreme Court the power of JUDICIAL REVIEW, that is the power to declare void any state law or decision of a state court that violated the Constitution.

### **Kansas-Nebraska Act**

1854

Created two new organized territories, both north of 36/30 and allowed "popular sovereignty", thus abolishing the Missouri Compromise line of 1820 which divided slave areas from free areas

### **Lend-Lease Act (1941)**

A program in which the United States supplied war supplies to the U.K, Soviet Union, China, France, and other nations in exchange for military bases in Bermuda and the West Indies.

### **National Voter Registration Bill (1993)**

The Motor Vote Act. Allowed people to register to vote when applying for driver's licenses.

### **New Deal Legislation (1933-1939)**

Legislation that expanded the role of government in the economy and society. Created entities like social security, the securities and exchange commission, and the TVA. These laws also dramatically expanded the role and size of the federal government.

<b>Northwest Ordinance of 1787</b>	Provided for a territorial government in the Northwest Territory. Created the framework for territories to apply for statehood. Approved by the Second Continental Congress on July 13, 1787. Re-enacted by the 1st Federal Congress (1789–1791) on July 21, 1789.
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### **No Child Left Behind Act 2001**

(1) States must adopt education accountability standards (2) States must annually test students (3) Sanctions against schools that fail to meet adequate yearly progress

### **The Patriot Act (2001)**

Act passed in response to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, granting broad police authority to the federal, state, and local governments to interdict, prosecute, and convict suspected terrorists.

### **Pendleton Act**

1883

Purpose was for Civil Service Reform and set up a commission to give competitive exams for those seeking government jobs.

### **Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (1996)**

Sought to increase the role of personal responsibility in welfare recipients and shifted many responsibilities for welfare provision to state governments.

### **Pure Food and Drug Act (1906)**

The act that prohibited the manufacture, sale, or shipment of impure or falsely labeled food and drugs

### **Sherman Anti-Trust Act**

1890

Purpose was to break up large trust or monopoly in any one industry as any combination or monopoly in restraints of trade was declared illegal. Wording was so loose that law was not effective.

### **Stamp Act (1765)**

A law passed by the British Parliament requiring colonists to pay a tax on newspapers, pamphlets, legal documents, and even playing cards.

### **Taft Hartley Act**

1947

(vetoed by Truman as anti-labor but passed by Congress over his veto)  
prohibited the closed shop, 60 day cooling off period before unions could call a strike, employers could sue unions to recover losses due to strikes.

### **Title IX Education Act (1972)**

Prohibited gender discrimination in federally funded education programs

### **Voting Rights Act**

1965

Suspended literacy tests for voting and authorized federal registration of voters

### **War Powers Act (1973)**

Gave any president the power to go to war under certain circumstances, but required that he could only do so for 90 days before being required to officially bring the matter before Congress.

### **Social Security Act (1935)**

Guaranteed retirement payments for enrolled workers beginning at age 65; set up federal-state system of unemployment insurance and care for dependent mothers and children, the handicapped, and public health

## CATEGORICAL BREAK DOWN OF LEGISLATIVE ACTS

### **Civil Rights:**

**Civil Rights Act (1871):** protected Southern blacks from the KKK

**Civil Rights Act (1957):** increased number of blacks allowed to vote in southern states

**Equal Pay Act (1963):** men and women doing the same job get the same salary

**Civil Rights Act (1964):** no discrimination in public places

**Voting Rights Act (1965):** allowed federal involvement in elections in states with histories of voting discrimination

**Federal Fair Housing Act (1968):** no discrimination in real estate

**Higher Education Act (1972) (Title IX):** no discrimination of men and women in schools (mainly affected sports)

**Americans with Disabilities Act (1990):** no discrimination against the disabled

### **Government Structure/Policies:**

**Judiciary Act (1789):** sets up structure of federal courts (SADASCD)

**Pendleton Act (1883):** government jobs are given based on merit, not patronage

**Hatch Act (1939):** civil service employees cannot abuse their power/position

**Administrative Procedure Act (1946):** sets up executive agencies policy of creating regulations

**Presidential Succession Act (1947):** establishes order of who takes over for the President

**War Powers Resolution (1973):** restricts the President's emergency war-making powers

**Budget Reform and Impoundment Act (1974):** requires all of Congress to approve of less spending by the President than stated in the budget

**Ethics in Government Act (1978):** requires elected officials to disclose their finances and limits lobbying activities

**Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act (1985):** requires budget cuts/spending goals by the President and Congress (later declared Unconstitutional)

### **Benefits (Social Security, Medicare, etc.):**

**Social Security Act (1935):** created the Social Security System

**Medicare Act (1965):** created the subsidized medical care program

**IDEA (1975):** students with disabilities must be provided with free education

**American's with Disabilities Act (1990):** no discrimination against the disabled

**Family and Medical Leave Act (1993):** unpaid leave must be provided for illness, maternity leave, etc.

**Welfare Reform Act (1996):** reforms the welfare system, sets limits (2 years consecutive, 5 years total) for people on welfare

### **Election/Voting Regulations:**

**Federal Election Campaign Act (1971):** sets up regulations for public and private spending for federal campaigns

**Motor Voter Registration Act (1993):** people can register to vote when they get their driver's license

**Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act (2002):** limits donations to campaigns, raises individual contribution limit, and campaign ads

### **Environmental Policy:**

**National Environmental Policy Act (1969):** requires the environment to be considered in large governmental projects

**Clean Air Act (1970):** sets emissions limits and requirements for air quality and increases federal funding for pollution research

**Endangered Species Act (1973):** protects endangered species through conservation

**Education:**

**Higher Education Act (1972) (Title IX):** no discrimination of men and women in schools  
(mainly affected sports)

**IDEA (1975):** students with disabilities must be provided with free education

**No Child Left Behind Act (2002):** expands federal government's power in education, sets testing requirements

**Information/Privacy Policy:**

**Freedom of Information Act (1966):** government records are now public (with limits)

**Privacy Act (1974):** government records about specific individuals can only be disclosed with consent

**PATRIOT Act (2001):** allows the government extensive liberties (wire taps, secrecy in government, etc) in order to fight terrorism (sunset legislation)

**PATRIOT ACT II (2006):** makes the PATRIOT ACT permanent