

10th AMENDMENT TASK FORCE

Federalism: The Founders' Formula for Freedom



A project of the Republican Study Committee (RSC)

10th Amendment to the United States Constitution: *"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States, respectively, or to the people."*

The "10"

- 1) A new Pew Research Center poll shows that nearly 8 in 10 Americans call Washington "too big and too powerful and say it's interfering too much in state and local matters."
- 2) Ross Douthat's latest NY Times column reports that Great Britain's Tory Party has released a new election manifesto that emphasizes localism and limited government. Douthat argues, "Essentially, the Tories are gambling that the fiscal crisis facing every Western government will create an opportunity for decentralization on an unprecedented scale."
- 3) Congressman Rob Bishop (UT-01), a co-founding Member of the 10th Amendment Task Force, penned a short piece on federalism in the State Policy Network's (SPN) March/April 2010 news publication. SPN is a service organization for America's free market, state-focused think tank community.
- 4) Members of the Virginia House of Delegates plan to deliver a letter calling on the federal government to "cease and desist" from passing mandates that exceed its power under the 10th amendment of the Constitution.
- 5) Blogger Bernie Quiqley claims the Tea Party "is a federalist movement" in The Hill.
- 6) Over at the "American Thinker," Anthony Heger makes a radical claim: "Providing individual medical care or requiring individuals to buy insurance aren't enumerated powers. Therefore, according to the Tenth Amendment, those powers are retained by the states and the people."
- 7) Nebraska recently became the 13th state to pass a non-binding resolution encouraging Congress to adhere to the principles of federalism in accord with the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to the Constitution.
- 8) Legislative Watch: For a number of years, Congressman John Shadegg (AZ-03), has sponsored the "Enumerated Powers Act" to require that all bills introduced in the U.S.

Congress include a statement setting forth the specific constitutional authority under which the law is being enacted.

9) The *Heritage Guide to the Constitution* contains a short but insightful [summary of the 10th Amendment](#).

10) Flashback: In 1996, the American Legislative Exchange Council ([ALEC](#)) produced a great summary of the 10th Amendment and an excellent list of [four recommendations to restore federalism](#).

"The 10" is a weekly summary of 10 new or noteworthy developments in the world of federalism and the 10th Amendment. If you have an item you would like to include in the next "The 10" email, please contact [Cody Stewart](#) at 202-225-8411.