

Constitution, Healthcare, and Amendments

Student's Name

Institutional Affiliation

Week 1: Constitution, Healthcare, and Amendments

Hello! I am majoring in political science at APU, and a passion draws me to understanding governmental processes. I have been taking online courses from my home in Virginia for a year. In POLS 210, I am eager to dive deeper into American government structures and their impact, hoping to harness this knowledge for civic engagement.

Federal Government's Role in Healthcare Policies (Option 1)

The U.S. Constitution empowers the federal government to regulate healthcare mainly through the Commerce Clause and the power to tax and spend for the general welfare. The Commerce Clause allows Congress to regulate commerce among the states, which has been interpreted to include healthcare services and industries. The taxing and spending clause enables the government to fund healthcare initiatives and mandate healthcare policies by providing or withholding federal funds.

A recent article highlighted the Biden administration's efforts to expand healthcare access through the Affordable Care Act. This action demonstrates the federal government's use of its power to tax and spend to encourage states to increase healthcare coverage, showcasing the government's role in shaping healthcare policy to promote general welfare.

Efforts to Amend the U.S. Constitution (Option 2)

Recent discussions have centered on an initiative to amend the U.S. Constitution to implement term limits for Congress members. Due to the Constitution's supremacy, this effort requires a constitutional amendment rather than just a federal law change. Federal laws can be altered or repealed by Congress or deemed unconstitutional by the courts. Still, an amendment would provide a permanent change that directly alters the foundational legal structure of the

government. This initiative reflects the principle of checks and balances, aiming to prevent the concentration of power and promote political accountability. It demonstrates the complex process of amending the Constitution as a reflection of the desire for systemic change, echoing the textbook's exploration of constitutional amendments as a tool for adapting governance to evolving societal values and needs.

Note

Remember, this is a fabricated example for illustrative purposes, designed to fit the guidelines provided.