

# Principles of Limited Government



# Limited Government

- Popular Sovereignty – Letting the people rule
- Three main principles that limit the government's power: Federalism, Separation of Powers and Checks and Balances.

# Federalism

- **Federalism** – The division of power between the **states** and the **federal** (national) government.
  - **Delegated Powers** are those given to Congress (the federal government).
    - *Example: Power to declare war*
  - **Reserved Powers** are those given to the states.
    - *Example: Establish schools*
  - **Concurrent Powers** are shared by the federal and state governments.
    - *Example: Collecting taxes*

# Separation of Powers

- Powers are divided not only by states and federal, but also within the federal government.
  - Power is divided among the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches so that no one branch can become too powerful.
    - Executive – President
    - Legislative – Congress (Senate and House of Representatives)
    - Judicial – Supreme Court

# Checks and Balances

- This system gives each of the three branches of government ways to limit the power of the other two.

