Government Vocabulary

1. Amendment- a change
2. Anti-Federalist- someone who was against ratifying the Constitution
3. Bill- an idea for a new law
4. Cabinet- a group of the president’s most trusted advisors
5. Checks and balances- a system that keeps each branch of government from becoming too powerful
6. Compromise- to give up something you want in order to reach an agreement
7. Democracy- a form of government in which the people rule and are free to make choices about their lives
8. Executive Branch- includes the president and has the power to enforce laws
9. Federal system- a system of government in which the power to govern is shared by the national and states governments
10. Federalists- A person who wanted to ratify the Constitution
11. Impeach- To accuse a government official of a crime
12. Judicial Branch- includes the court system and is responsible for determining the fairness of laws
13. Legislative Branch- the branch of government that makes laws
14. Popular Sovereignty- the idea that government gets its power from the people
15. Ratify- to approve something
16. Republic- a form of government in which people elect representatives to run the government
17. Reserved Powers- authority that belongs to the states or to the people
18. Separation of Powers- the division of powers among the three branches of government
19. Suffrage- the right to vote
20. Veto- to reject something