



Washington Statehood

November 11, 1889

How is a state created?

- ✧ Population over 125,000
- ✧ Congress passes an Enabling Act – enables territory to draft a state constitution
- ✧ Constitution is approved by voters in the territory and the US Congress
- ✧ The US Congress created a bill (law) adding the state
- ✧ Congress passes the bill and the president signs it

Concepts of American Government

- ✧ Separation of Powers: Power is spread out over many forms of government
 - ◆ 3 branches – legislative, judicial, executive
 - ◆ 3 levels – Federal, State, Local
- ✧ Check and Balances: 3 Branches have power of each other
- ✧ Bicameralism – 2 legislative bodies (House of Representatives and Senate)
- ✧ Separation of Church and State: Government doesn't interfere with religion and religion doesn't interfere with government.