

ARTICLE XVII — AMENDMENTS OR REVISIONS

Main topic: How the Constitution can be changed.

Section 1 — Three ways to propose amendments/revisions

1. **Congress**, by a vote of **3/4 of all its Members**
2. **Constitutional Convention (Con-Con)** — called by Congress upon a **2/3 vote of all Members**
3. **People's Initiative** — petition of at least **12% of the total number of registered voters**, with every legislative district represented by at least **3% of its registered voters**

Section 2 — Constitutional Convention

Congress may submit to the electorate the question of whether to call a Constitutional Convention by a **majority vote of all its Members**.

Section 3 — Ratification

Any amendment or revision must be **ratified by a majority of votes cast in a plebiscite**.

The plebiscite must be held **not earlier than 60 days nor later than 90 days** after approval of the proposal.

Section 4 — People's Initiative limitation

A people's initiative can be used **only for amendments**, not for a complete **revision** of the Constitution.

It may be exercised **not more often than once every 5 years**.

ARTICLE XVIII — TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

Main topic: Temporary rules for the **transition from the 1973 Constitution to the 1987 Constitution**.

Important sections to remember:

Sec. 1 — Effectivity

The 1987 Constitution takes effect immediately upon ratification.

Sec. 2 — Existing laws

Existing laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, letters of instructions, and other issuances **not inconsistent with the Constitution remain effective** until amended, repealed, or revoked.

Sec. 3 — Existing government positions

Existing officials and employees continue in office unless otherwise provided by the Constitution or removed according to law.

Sec. 4 — Existing courts

Existing courts continue to function, subject to changes made under the Constitution.

Sec. 5 — Term of incumbent President and Vice-President

The incumbent President and Vice-President continue to serve until **June 30, 1992**, unless otherwise provided.

Sec. 6 — Presidential power

The incumbent President may continue exercising legislative powers until Congress is convened.

Sec. 7 — Existing administrative agencies

Existing laws and administrative structures continue unless inconsistent with the Constitution.

Sec. 8 onward

These contain various **transitional arrangements**, including elections, government reorganization, property, salaries, pensions, and other matters needed to shift to the new constitutional system.

ARTICLE XVII = CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION

How do we amend/revise? → Congress, Con-Con, People's Initiative → Plebiscite

ARTICLE XVIII = TRANSITION

How do we move from the old Constitution/government system to the 1987 Constitution?

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“Article XVII provides the methods for amending or revising the Constitution, while Article XVIII contains the transitory provisions necessary for the transition to the 1987 Constitution.”