

Chapter 04

Excerpt from letter

Thomas Jefferson to Elbridge Gerry - 1799

"I am for preserving to the states the powers not yielded by them to the Union, & to the legislature of the Union it's constitutional share in the division of powers: and I am not for transferring all the powers of the states to the general government, & all those of that government to the Executive branch. I am for a government rigorously frugal & simple, applying all the possible savings of the public revenue to the discharge of the national debt: and not for a multiplication of officers & salaries merely to make partizans, & for increasing, by every device, the public debt, on the principle of it's being a public blessing." [1] [2] [3]

Citations

1- Letter to Elbridge Gerry, 1799

2 - Amendment 9 - 12/15/1791, "The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people."

3 - Amendment 10 - 12/15/1791, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."