

Introduction of American Government – Fun Bell work Activity!

Directions: Copy the following terms and definitions into your notebook under the title “Introduction to American Government – The Critical Period”

Articles of Confederation: The first plan of government of the United States. Created a weak national government; replaced in 1789 by the Constitution of the United States.

Assembly: group of people who gather to make laws – can also be called a legislature

Authority: the power or right to give orders or make decisions

Constitution: a nation or state’s plan of government

Economy: a nation’s system of production, distribution, and consumption of goods – who has the wealth, goods, and monies

Federal Government: the government for the entire nation (all states)

Government: act of governing – exercising control, Authority or POWER over a society

National Security: Defending the country from outside or foreign threats

North West Ordinance: Land agreement of 1787 that created the Northwest Territory, enabling the United States to expand into the Great Lakes area. States created from the Northwest Territory included Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin

Regulate: Control by law; enforce legal restrictions

Revenue: tax income: government income due to taxation

State governments: government within and individual state

States’ Rights: the idea that the state government should be more powerful than the Federal government.

Territory: a geographic area which is part of the United States but is not a state

Unicameral: an assembly or legislature consisting of one part or house