

Headnotes	Present Constitution	Constitution of 1867	Constitution of 1864
<p>House of Delegates and Senate: Power to imprison for disorderly or disrespectful behavior.</p>	<p>Sec. 23. Each House may punish by imprisonment, during the session of the General Assembly, any person, not a member, for disrespectful, or disorderly behavior in its presence, or for obstructing any of its proceedings, or any of its officers in the execution of their duties; provided, such imprisonment shall not, at any one time, exceed ten days.</p>	<p>Sec. 23. Each House may punish by imprisonment, during the session of the General Assembly, any person, not a member, for disrespectful, or disorderly behaviour in its presence, or for obstructing any of its proceedings, or any of its officers in the execution of their duties; provided, such imprisonment shall not, at any one time, exceed ten days.</p>	<p>Sec. 22. Each House may punish by imprisonment, during the session of the General Assembly, any person not a member for disrespectful or disorderly behavior in its presence, or for obstructing any of its proceedings, or any of its officers in the execution of their duties; provided such imprisonment shall not, at any one time, exceed ten days.</p>
<p>House of Delegates: Grand inquest; imprisonment of offenders; examine State account; appoint auditors; call for public papers and records; call for persons necessary to public interest inquiries; and direct suits for office bonds. Joint Standing Committee, Senate, House of Delegates: Creation; power; and duties.</p>	<p>Sec. 24. The House of Delegates may inquire, on the oath of witnesses, into all complaints, grievances and offences, as the Grand Inquest of the State, and may commit any person, for any crime, to the public jail, there to remain, until discharged by due course of Law. They may examine and pass all accounts of the State, relating either to the collection or expenditure of the revenue, and appoint Auditors to state and adjust the same. They may call for all public, or official papers and records, and send for persons, whom they may judge necessary in the course of their inquiries, concerning</p>	<p>Sec. 24. The House of Delegates may inquire, on the oath of witnesses, into all complaints, grievances and offences, as the Grand Inquest of the State, and may commit any person, for any crime, to the public jail, there to remain, until discharged by due course of Law. They may examine and pass all accounts of the State, relating either to the collection or expenditure of the revenue, and appoint Auditors to state and adjust the same. They may call for all public, or official papers and records, and send for persons, whom they may judge necessary, in the course of their inquiries,</p>	<p>Sec. 23. The House of Delegates may inquire, on the oath of witnesses, into all complaints, grievances and offences, as the Grand Inquest of the State, and may commit any person for any crime to the public jail, there to remain until discharged by due course of law; they may examine and pass all accounts of the State, relating either to the collection or expenditure of the revenue, and appoint auditors to state and adjust the same, they may call for all public or official papers and records, and send for persons whom they may judge necessary in the course of their inquiries con-</p>

Constitution of 1851	Constitution of 1776	Amendments to 1776 Constitution
<p>Sec. 25. Each House may punish by imprisonment, during the session of the General Assembly, any person not a member, for disrespectful or disorderly behaviour in its presence, or for obstructing any of its proceedings or any of its officers in the execution of their duties; provided, such imprisonment shall not, at any one time, exceed ten days.</p>	<p>12. That the house of delegates may punish, by imprisonment, any person who shall be guilty of a contempt in their view, by any disorderly or riotous behaviour, or by threats to, or abuse of their members, or by any obstruction to their proceedings; they may also punish, by imprisonment, any person who shall be guilty of a breach of privilege, by arresting on civil process, or by assaulting, any of their members, during their sitting, or on their way to or return from the house of delegates, or by any assault of, or abstraction to their officers, in the execution of any order or process, or by assaulting or obstructing any witness, or any other person, attending on, or on their way to or from, the house, or by rescuing any person committed by the house; and the senate may exercise the same power, in similar cases.</p>	
<p>Sec. 28. The House of Delegates may inquire, on the oath of witnesses, into all complaints, grievances and offences, as the Grand Inquest of the State, and may commit any person for any crime to the public jail, there to remain until discharged by due course of law—they may examine and pass all accounts of the State, relating either in the collection or expenditure of the revenue, and appoint auditors to state and adjust the same—they may call for all public or official papers, and records, and send for persons whom they may judge necessary in the course of their inquiries concerning affairs</p>	<p>10. That the house of delegates may originate all money bills, propose bills to the senate or receive those offered by that body, and assent, dissent or propose amendments; that they may enquire, on the oath of witnesses, into all complaints, grievances, and offences, as the grand inquest of this State, and may commit any person for any crime to the public jail, there to remain till he be discharged by due course of law; they may expel any member for a great misdemeanor, but not a second time for the same cause; they may examine and pass all accounts of the State, relating either to the collec-</p>	