

## Vocabulary – Chapter 4

<b>due process</b>	The principle that no person can be deprived of life, liberty, or property without fair legal procedures and safeguards. republican government A representative political system in which authority comes from the people and is exercised by elected officials. checks and balances A system in which each branch of government can limit the power of the other branches.
<b>federalism</b>	A system of government in which power is divided between a central government and smaller regional governments.
<b>independent judiciary</b>	A system of judges and courts that is separate from other branches of government. Such a judiciary is not controlled by politicians and can exercise independent judgment.
<b>strict construction</b>	A literal approach to interpreting the Constitution, using the exact words of the document.
<b>loose construction</b>	A flexible approach to interpreting the Constitution, taking into account current conditions in society.
<b>judicial review</b>	The power of the courts to declare laws and executive acts unconstitutional. The Supreme Court is the ultimate judge of whether a government action conforms to the Constitution.