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The 4th Branch of Government

ith the explosion of social media and the Internet, practically everyone in America has instant access to the news and a greater ability to follow what is happening anywhere. As a result, we are a culture and a nation that is bombarded with information. However, we are coping poorly with that assault and using an outdated framework for our governance. Many people feel disconnected from the very mechanisms and people who are supposed to represent their interests. The Fourth Branch of Government is about updating the framework of our democracy. It is a movement whose time has come, and one that the Founding Fathers envisioned. This book outlines a roadmap for how change can be facilitated, as well as a rationale for why it is absolutely necessary and urgent. The only way to update our democracy and make it relevant to the 21st century is to call for a Constitutional Convention. In that forum, we can consider changes like eliminating the Electoral College, or implementing e-voting—perhaps even changes leading to a broader and more direct participation in our governance, the Fourth Branch of Government.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



GUY TERRELL is a project manager, as well as an accomplished writer. He earned an M.B.A. from George Mason University, and later added an M.S. in Information Systems from Virginia Commonwealth, earning a Dean's Scholar Award. Learning and writing are his passions. He has published poetry and is a past president and treasurer of the Poetry Society of Virginia (PSV). More recently he earned the Professional Project Management certification, PMP, to continue to work in technology and information systems. He has more recently turned his talents to helping American democracy flourish, thinking critically about our nation and its future.



JACK TRAMMELL is an award-winning author and poet whose credits include hundreds of articles and stories, and more than twenty books. He was a recent candidate for U.S. Congress in representative Eric Cantor's seat and has enjoyed a twenty-five year career as an educator in the public schools and as a professor and researcher in higher education. His areas of expertise include social history, disability, education, government, American history, and creative writing. He was a long-time columnist for the *Washington Times*. His most recent books include a history of disability in America, and a historical Civil War novella.

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