Name:
AP Gov Review: Video #15, Electoral Laws and Systems

Big Idea	Guided Notes	Areas of Concern
Questions		
	Voting Laws According to the Constitution, voting laws are left to the:	
What type of primary does your state have?	 Emergence of and literacy tests in the South How electoral votes are distributed are left to states as well (more in a 	
	few) The Federal Government has created laws and amendments to increase	
	voter participation • 15th suffrage • 19th suffrage	
	 Electoral votes for eliminated 	
	 Voting Rights Act of 1965 - eliminated literacy tests, federal government could voters lowered voting age to 18 	
	Electoral College	
	Electoral conege	
	 What is it? Determines who will be president and vice-president Established by the would need an to change Why was it created? Constitutional framers were weary of the public voting How are state's electoral votes determined? 	
	 The number of + the number of members Example: NY has 2 Senators and House members = Electoral votes 	
	 How are electors chosen today? By state parties How many electoral votes are there? 	
	100 Senators, House Members, 3 for D.C.	
	 How many are needed to win? More than half = 	
	How does the Electoral College work? In 48 states (Not ME and NE), it's a scenario	
	 So if Candidate A receives the most popular votes in NY, Candidate A gets all votes In ME and NE: 	
	Each distributes its	

How did Nebraska divide its votes in the 2008 Presidential Election?	vote to a candidate • The two electors representing the are given to the candidate that wins the state • These two states are the states in which more than one candidate can receive electoral votes • What happens if no one wins an electoral majority? • According to the amendment, the House then decides, with each state receiving 1 vote • CA with 53 electoral votes has as much power as WY with 3 • This happened in the Election of 1824, or the "Corrupt Bargain" Significance of Electoral College
Is your state a "swing" state?	 Less populated states (WY) are often overrepresented compared to larger states (CA) WY - 586,000 = 1 vote per people CA - 39,144,000 = 1 vote per people Candidates often in states that are "swing" states - OH, PA, FL These states do not for one political party