

Acknowledgments

This book reflects a deep dive into one key constitutional principle and power, but it reflects a wider amount of thinking about state constitutionalism and its form and function. Some of this thinking has resulted in published research, some has been sketched in various public lectures at law schools, and the rest has emerged rather organically from discussion in courses with terrific law students at various law schools where I have taught. And yet most of it is new with the work on this book. A number of prominent academics and judges, most recently the Hon. Jeff Sutton of the US Court of Appeals, have urged the academy to look beyond the US Constitution and federal constitutional law, to the myriad issues that arise in the context of state constitutions and state constitutional law. Hopefully this book responds to this call. State constitutions are at center stage of the most difficult debates and controversies in modern American politics, and I am hopeful that this book will be joined by a growing number of works to go onto the proverbial state constitutional law bookshelf.

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