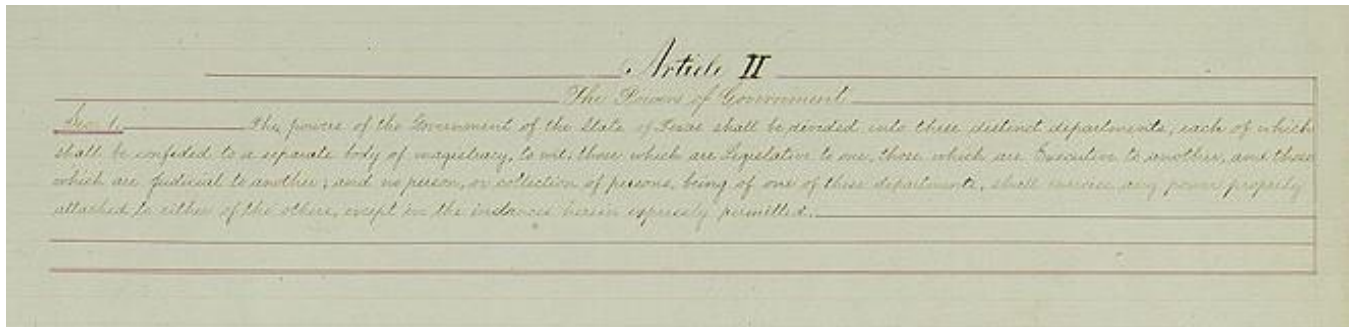


Branches of State Government: Preview



The Texas Constitution of 1876 requires that the three branches of government be separate. In Article II, the Texas constitution states that “The powers of the government of the State of Texas shall be divided into three distinct departments, each of which shall be confided to a separate body of magistracy; to wit: Those which are legislative to one, those which are executive to another, and those which are judicial to another; and no person, or collection of persons, being of one of these departments, shall exercise any power properly attached to either of the others, except in the instances herein expressly permitted.”

Analysis: What are the three “distinct departments” and why do you think the Constitution requires this separation?