

Political inequality

The main reason, perhaps the only real reason, why second chambers exist in all federal systems is to preserve and protect *unequal* representation. That is, they exist primarily to ensure that the representatives of small units cannot be readily outvoted by the representatives of large units.

In a word, they are designed to construct a barrier to majority rule at the national level.

Robert A. Dahl,
*How Democratic Is the
American Constitution?*