

**FP.C&G.2.7**

**Analyze contemporary issues and governmental responses at the local, state, and national levels in terms of how they promote the public interest and/or general welfare (e.g., taxes, immigration, naturalization, civil rights, economic development, annexation, redistricting, zoning, national security, health care, etc.).**

**Students will understand:**

1. The social, political, and economic impact of how policy is established and implemented is often determined by the level of government at which decisions are made. (Structure of government, separation of powers with checks and balances)
2. Government responses to contemporary issues often create or defuse controversy depending upon the political, economic, social, or cultural agenda of groups or organizations.
3. Controversies often exist regarding government response to contemporary issues and may result in the failure to develop long term solutions to local, state, or national problems.
4. Individuals and institutions may be shaped by government actions and respond in ways which result in social protest or community and national unity.

**Students will know:**

1. The definition of “public interest”.
2. How the public interest is influenced by the ideal of the common good.
3. Various examples of public interests in the United States.
4. Arguments over the definition of general welfare in the United States and how local, state and national governments attempt to resolve them.
5. Examples of contemporary issues affecting the United States and how government and citizens respond.

**Key Terminology:**

- Public interest - The public interest refers to the welfare of the general public (in contrast to the selfish interest of a person, group, or firm) in which the whole society has a stake and which warrants recognition, promotion, and protection by the government and its agencies.