**IV. Limits on Congress**

* **1st Limit**
* Supreme Court can declare laws passed by Congress unconstitutional
* Try to pass laws that go along with the Constitution
* **2nd Limit**
* **Ex Post Facto Law –**
* Congress cannot punish you for anything done in the past if there was no law against it
* **3rd Limit**
* **Bill of Attainder –**
* USA Patriot Law – Constitutional?
* **4th Limit**
* **Writ of Habeas Corpus –**
* U.S.A. Patriot Act – Constitutional?
* **5th Limit**
* Congress must operate under a budget
* All bills must pass the appropriation committee
* **6th Limit**
* **Rider –**
* Have come under fire in recent years
* Make up less than 1% of federal budget
* Could eliminate all riders and not reduce the debt because they have already been appropriated

* Often used as excuses for excessive government spending