

United States *n pl, sing* **United States** [fr. The *United States* of America]
usu cap : the collective name of the several north American bodies politic
joined together governmentally by and under a supreme constitution : **a** :
one of these United States : (1) an independent State < *Kansas is a free
State* > (2) a state government as a component unit of a federal system **b** :
the name of a sovereign analogous to other sovereigns in the family of
nations **c** : the national government as a component unit of a federal system
: as < *there are many definitions of the term ~ throughout federal law* >