

## CHAPTER

## 3

## Section 3

## Informal Amendment

The informal amendment process is an effective way to keep the Constitution up-to-date. The Supreme Court is constantly reviewing decisions of lower courts and, in the process, continuously amending the Constitution. Since its landmark decision in 1962 outlawing organized, officially-sponsored prayers in school, the Supreme Court has continued to amend informally the Constitution and place restrictions on school prayer. Study the cartoon below and answer the following questions.



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### Interpreting Political Cartoons

1. What is the coach about to do?
2. What is the "High Court"?
3. Why is the coach telling the players to pretend they are looking for a contact lens?
4. **Demonstrating Reasoned Judgment** How does the Supreme Court's ability to amend the Constitution informally serve as a check and balance on the other branches of government?