

U.S. Constitution

Amendment- a written change to the Constitution

Bill of Rights- The first ten amendments to become apart of the U.S. Constitution in 1791.

Amendment #1- Freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition

Amendment #2- Right to bear arms

Amendment #3- No one may be forced to house soldiers

Amendment #4- Protects against unreasonable search and seizure

Amendment #5- Rights of the criminally accused (indictment by grand jury, no double jeopardy, no self incrimination, due process of the law, eminent domain)

Amendment #6- Rights to a speedy trial by jury (speedy trial, impartial jury, informed of charges, right to an attorney)

Amendment #7- Rights to a jury trial in CIVIL CASES, more than \$20- people sue over money/property

Amendment #8- No excessive bail, no cruel and unusual punishment

Amendment #9- People have other basic rights not listed in Constitution

Amendment #10- All powers not given to the federal government are left for the states to take care of/decide

Amendment #11- Federal courts do not have jurisdiction in cases against a state

Amendment #12- Provides for separate elections for president and vice president

Amendment #13- Abolishes slavery

Amendment #14- Provides equality for all citizens; state governments must follow previously passed amendments

Amendment #15- All males have the right to vote

Amendment #16- Congress has the power to pass direct taxes, such as income tax

Amendment #17- Senators are to be elected by the voters in their state; governor fills state senator positions if position opens during a term

Amendment #18- Selling and drinking of alcoholic beverages is made illegal (prohibited)

Amendment #19- Gives women the right to vote

Amendment #20- Beginning of President, VP and Congress terms in office begins in January; presidential succession can take place before Presidential inauguration

Amendment #21- Selling and drinking of alcoholic beverages is made legal (allowed again, #18 was repealed or cancelled by this amendment)

Amendment #22- Presidents may serve no more than 2 terms or a total of 10 years

Amendment #23- District of Columbia is allowed presidential Electoral College votes

Amendment #24- Eliminates poll tax (no required payment needed to vote)

Amendment #25- Provides for presidential succession and filling a vacant office of vice president, if VP dies or his removed from office

Amendment #26- Lowers voting age from 21 to 18

Amendment #27- Congressional compensation increases may not take effect until after that congressional term is over (their pay raise doesn't go into effect until new term)