

27 Amendments to the U. S. Constitution (simplified)

Amendment- a written change to the Constitution

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

1st Semester

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 accused (indictment by grand jury, no double jeopardy, no self incrimination, due process of the law, eminent domain)

Amendment #6- Right to a speedy trial by jury

Amendment #7- Right 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 (enumerated) in the Constitution

Amendment #10- All powers not given to the federal government are left to the states

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

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

2nd Semester

Amendment #13- Abolishes slavery and other forms of involuntary servitude

Amendment #14- defines citizenship and guarantees rights of all citizens, equal protection

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

Amendment #18- production, distribution, and sale of alcoholic beverages is illegal (prohibited)

Amendment #19- Gives women the right to vote (suffrage)

Amendment #20- President, VP and Congressional terms in office begin in January

Amendment #21- 18th amendment is repealed

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

Amendment #23- District of Columbia is provided 3 Electoral Votes

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

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

Amendment #26- Lowers the voting age from 21 to 18

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