



***What should be the 28th Amendment to the Constitution?***

Draft a proposed amendment to the Constitution. Think of a right or freedom that you believe needs to be protected or a part of the Constitution that needs to be changed. Is there a new power or limit on power that needs to be added to the Constitution?

In your essay, please discuss the following:

Why is your proposed amendment needed?

What is the problem you are addressing?

Why is an amendment the best way to solve the problem?

**IDEAS FOR TEACHERS**

To generate discussion among your students, you might consider prompting them for their thoughts on the following possible amendments:

- Impose a ban on assault weapons
- Make gay marriage a fundamental right
- Impose term limits for Congress and/or for the Supreme Court
- Change the terms for the House and Senate to 4 years (from 2 and 6 years, respectively)
- Make the right to vote by mail and/or internet a national right (with or without showing a picture I.D.)
- Make the choice to have or abort a pregnancy a national right

- Enact a Constitutional right to privacy
- Impose a ban on corporations and other non-human persons from contributing to political campaigns
- Prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation
- Legalize the consumption of marijuana at age 21
- Lower the legal drinking age from 21 to 18
- Require women and men to register for the Selective Service System (the “draft”)
- Make access to mental health services a Constitutional right
- Ban lawmakers from accepting employment/gifts/payment from any campaign contributor for at least 4 years from the end of his or her term in office
- Remove term limits for U.S. Presidents
- Place an age limit on U.S. Presidents
- Make higher education free
- Outlaw the death penalty
- Recognize a Constitutional right to a free public education
- Adopt a minimum wage and maximum wage amendment, ensuring a right to certain wages, but also limiting the total wealth that any individual can accrue
- Recognize equal rights for women in the Constitution (compared with equal rights under statutes like the Civil Rights Act)
- Change the composition of the Supreme Court from 9 to 13 members with cases heard by a panel drawn from one member of each U.S. Court of Appeals from each of the thirteen circuit courts across the country
- Abolish the Electoral College
- Recognize a Constitutional right to environmental security