

Welcome to the reading of the US Constitution!
~ National Constitution Day ~

Lincoln, Massachusetts
Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Sponsored by the Town of Lincoln's
Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism Committee
(IDEA)

Welcome!

Tonight's Order of Events

- ★ Introduction of Poet Laureate
- ★ Readers 1 – 10 line up at the microphones
 - ★ IDEA Committee members read the Preamble
 - ★ Readers read the original sections of the Constitution
- ★ Poet Laureate's Comments
- ★ Readers 15 – 39 line up at the microphones to read all the amendments
- ★ Whole group read of the Preamble
- ★ Group photo!
- ★ Interactive questions and refreshments in the lobby



Regie Gibson

Preamble – IDEA Committee

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.



Article I: The Legislative Branch

- Kim Bodnar
- Chris Klem
- Roy Harvey
- Mary Brody Masterson
- Kathy Madison
- Jim Hutchinson

A photograph of the White House in Washington, D.C. The building is white with a prominent portico supported by columns. A large fountain is visible in the foreground, and the sky is blue with some clouds. The image is partially obscured by a semi-transparent white box containing text.

Article II: The Executive Branch

- Tim Higgins
- Lisa Putukian
- Anne Sobol

Article III: The Judicial Branch

- Don Hafner



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Article IV: Federal & State Powers

Governs the relationships between the states and the Federal government.

- Deborah Howe





Article IV: Federal & State Powers

Robin Wilkerson

Article V: Amendments

&

Article VI: Debt and Support

Stephen Atlas



Article VII: Ratification



• Rob Stringer

- G. Washington, President & Deputy from Virginia
- John Langdon, NH
- Nicholas Gilman, NH
- Nathaniel Gorham, MA
- Rufus King, MA
- Wm. Saml. Johnson, CT
- Roger Sherman, CT
- Alexander Hamilton, NY
- Wil. Livingston, NJ
- David Brearley, NJ
- Wm. Paterson, NJ
- Jona. Dayton, NJ
- B. Franklin, PA
- Thomas Mifflin, PA
- Robt Morris, PA
- Geo. Clymer, PA
- Thos. FitzSimons, PA
- Jared Ingersoll, PA
- James Wilson, PA
- Gouv Morris, PA
- Geo. Read, DE
- Gunning Bedford, Jr., DE
- John Dickenson, DE
- Richard Bassett, DE
- Jaco. Broom, DE
- James McHenry, MD
- Dan of St Thos. Jenifer, MD
- Danl Carroll, MD
- John Blair, VA
- James Madison, Jr., VA
- Wm. Blount, NC
- Richd. Dobbs Spaight, NC
- Hu Williamson, NC
- J. Rutledge, SC
- Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, SC
- Pierce Butler, SC
- William Few, GA
- Abr Baldwin, GA
- Attest William Jackson, Secretary

We the People

insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defence
and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution

Article I.

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate
of Representatives

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, a
in each State the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors in that State

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and seven Years a Citizen of the
and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their
Numbers which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service,

Preamble

The Bill of Rights

1st Amendment:
Freedom of
Religion,
Speech, Press,
& more!

- Russell Kramp



The Bill of Rights

2nd Amendment: Right to Bear Arms

- Frances
Wentworth



The Bill of Rights

3rd Amendment: Quartering of Soldiers

- Greta Eckhardt



The Bill of Rights

4th Amendment: Search & Seizure

- Graham Onigman



The Bill of Rights

5th Amendment:
Grand Jury, Self-
Incrimination, Due
Process, & more!

- Julian Barreveld





The Bill of Rights

6th Amendment: Right to Speedy Trial, Witnesses, & Counsel

- Julia Heustis



The Bill of Rights

7th Amendment: Jury Trial in Civil Lawsuits

- Marcelo Buendia

The Bill of Rights

8th Amendment:
Excessive Fines,
Cruel & Unusual
Punishment

- Greg DeGuglielmo





The Bill of Rights

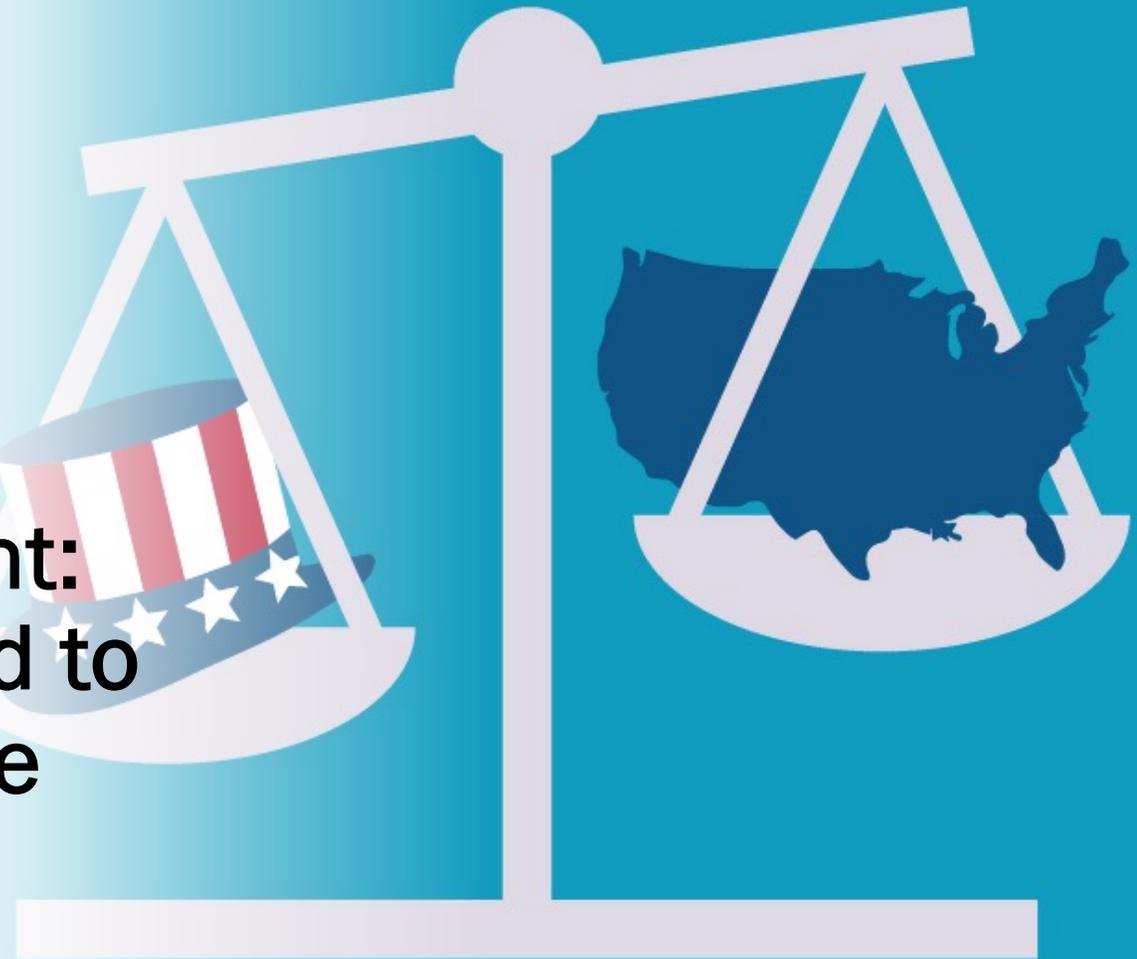
9th Amendment: Non-Enumerated Rights Retained by People

- Jayden Wang

The Bill of Rights

10th Amendment:
Rights Reserved to
States or People

- Carrie Stamos



11th Amendment: Suits Against States

Passed by Congress March 4, 1794

Ratified February 7, 1795

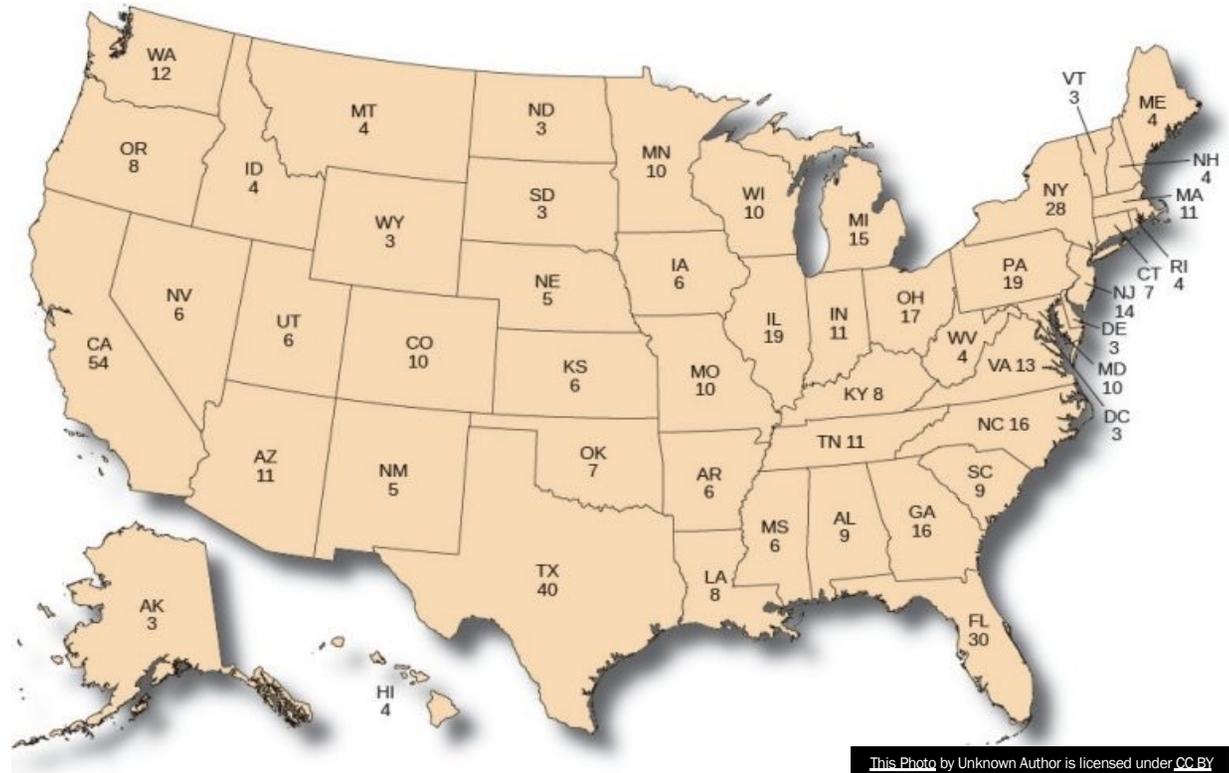
- Carrie Stamos



12th Amendment: Election of President & Vice President

Passed by Congress
December 9, 1803
Ratified June 15, 1804

- Jennifer Glass



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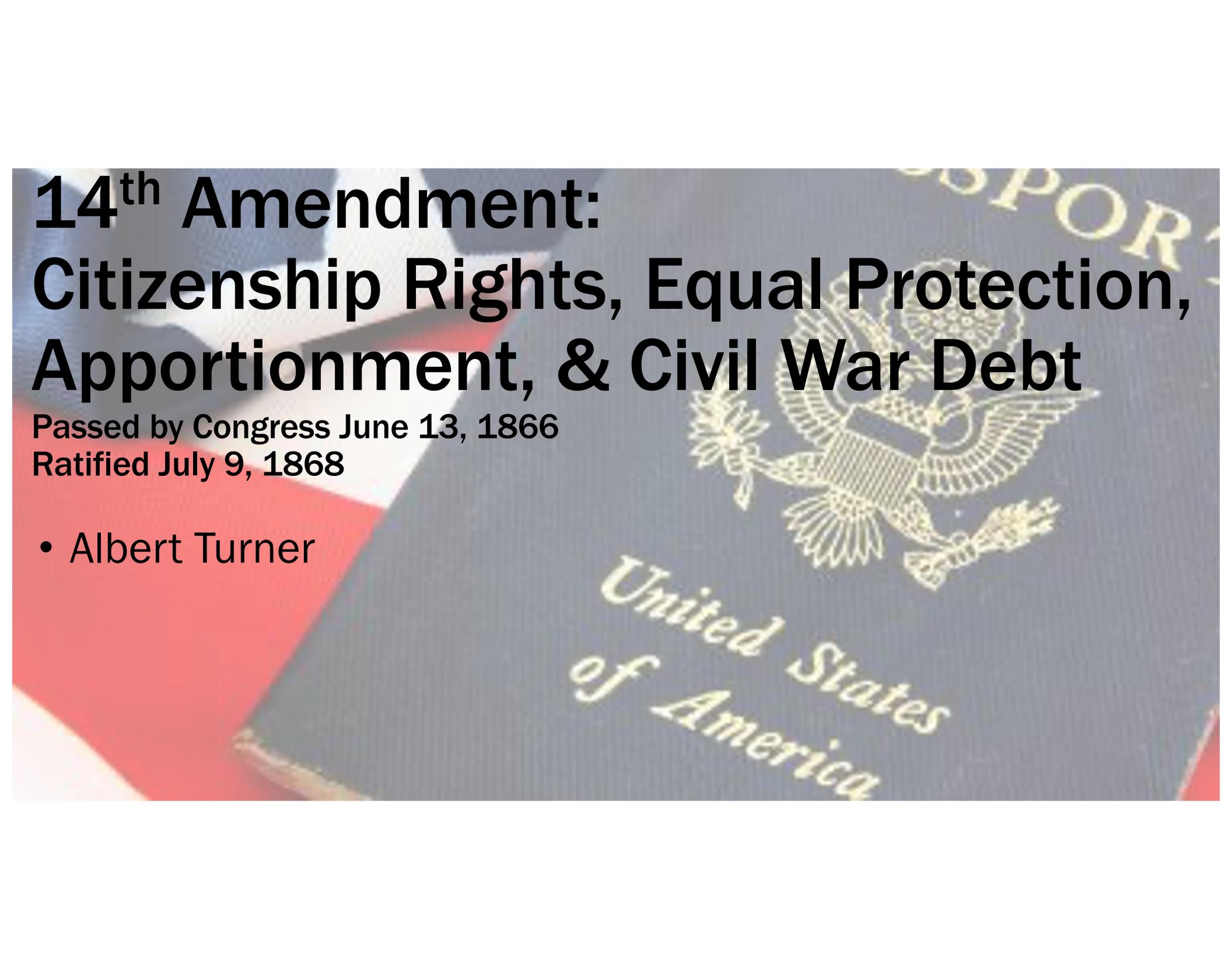
13th Amendment: Abolition of Slavery

Passed by Congress January 31, 1865

Ratified December 6, 1865

- Kim Jalet





14th Amendment: Citizenship Rights, Equal Protection, Apportionment, & Civil War Debt

Passed by Congress June 13, 1866

Ratified July 9, 1868

- Albert Turner

15th Amendment: Right to Vote not Denied by Race

Passed by Congress

February 26, 1869

Ratified February 3, 1870

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- Joan Kimball

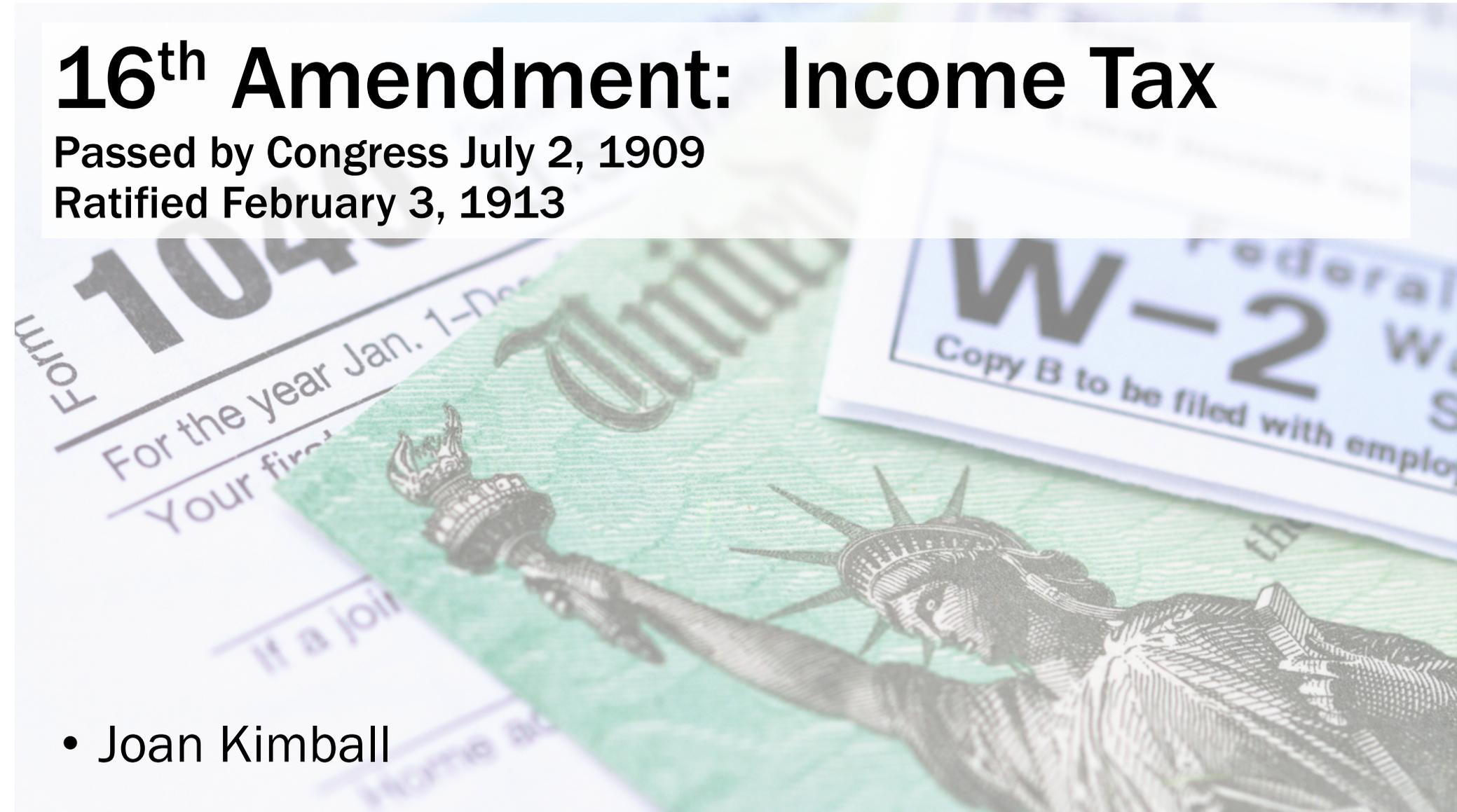


16th Amendment: Income Tax

Passed by Congress July 2, 1909

Ratified February 3, 1913

- Joan Kimball





17th Amendment: Popular Election of Senators

Passed by Congress May 13, 1912

Ratified April 8, 1913

- Stephanie Kramp

18th Amendment: Prohibition of Liquor

Passed by Congress December 18, 1917.

Ratified January 16, 1919.

- Sarah Bishop





19th Amendment: Women's Right to Vote

Passed by Congress June 4, 1919

Ratified August 18, 1920

- Sue Klem

20th Amendment: Presidential Term & Succession, Assembly of Congress

Passed by Congress March 2, 1932
Ratified January 23, 1933

- Mark Masterson

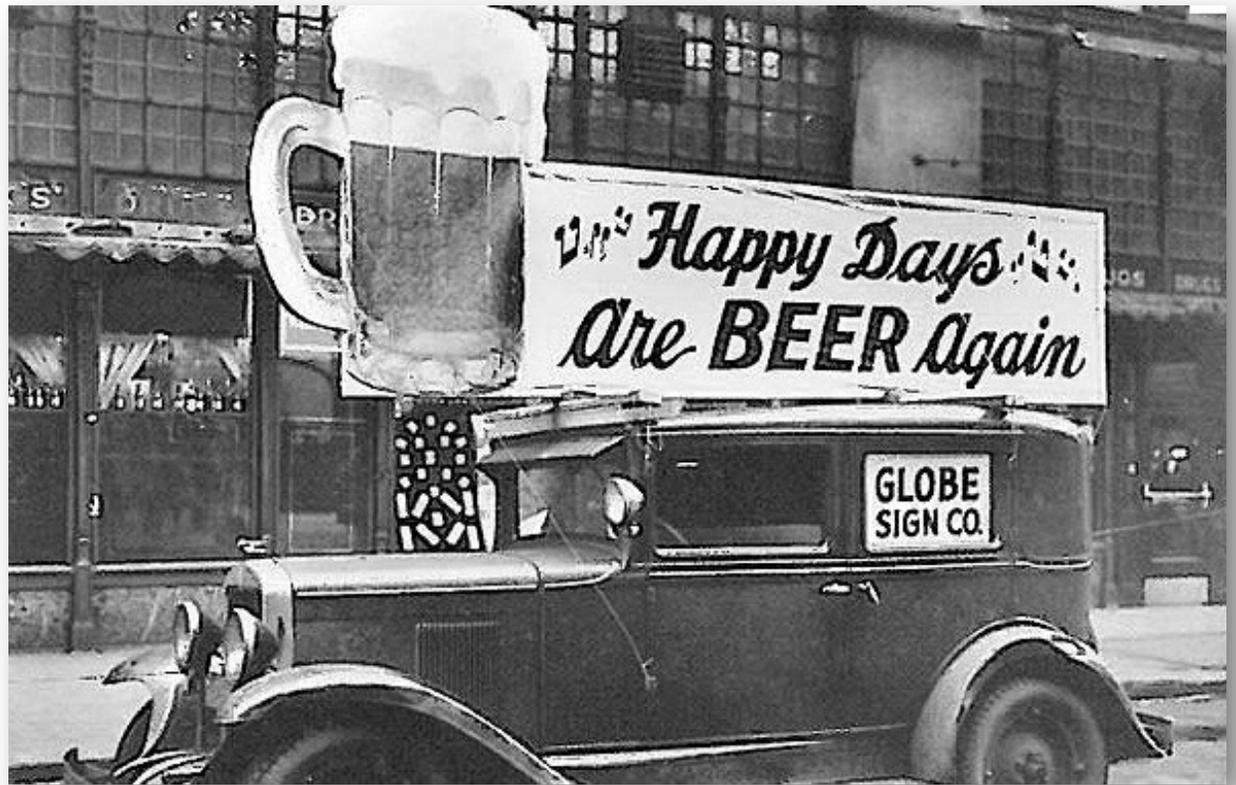


21st Amendment: Repeal of Prohibition

Passed by Congress
February 20, 1933

Ratified December 5, 1933

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- Sarah Bishop



22nd Amendment: Two-term Limit on Presidency

Passed by Congress March 21, 1947
Ratified February 27, 1951

- Andy Clark

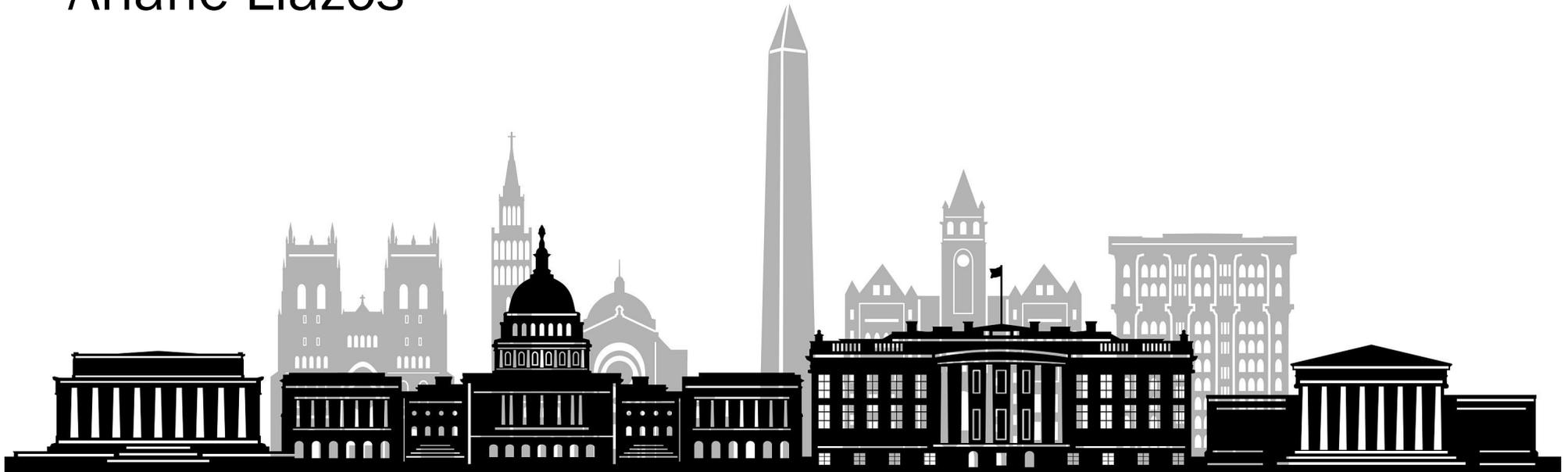


23rd Amendment: Presidential Vote for D.C.

Passed by Congress June 16, 1960

Ratified March 29, 1961

- Ariane Liazos



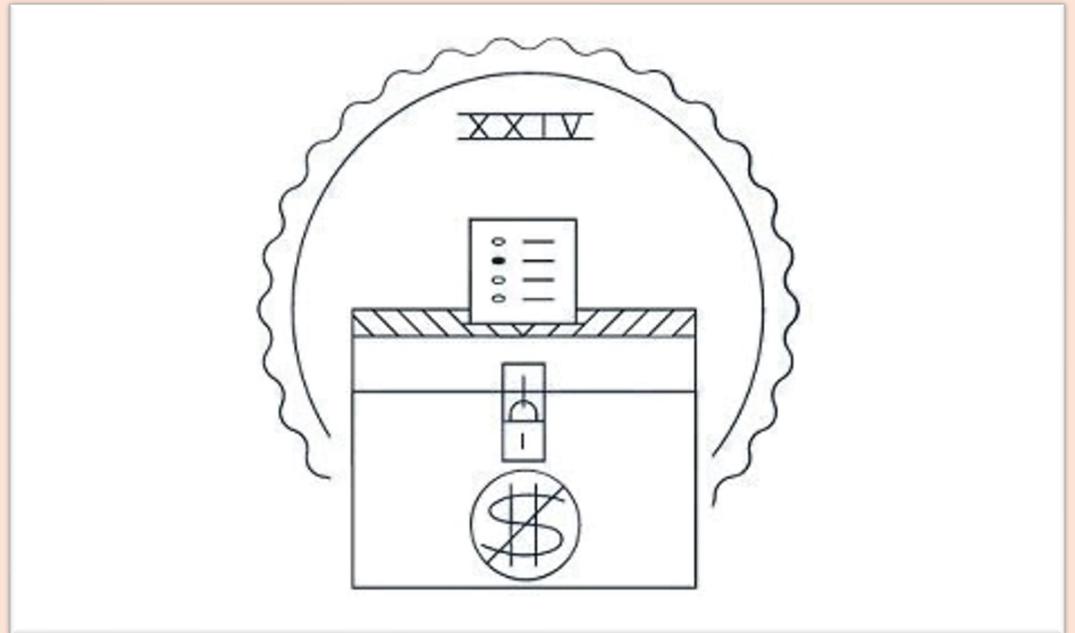
WASHINGTON, D.C.

24th Amendment: Abolition of Poll Taxes

Passed by Congress August 27,
1962

Ratified January 23, 1964

- Sarah Chester



25th Amendment: Presidential Disability & Succession

Passed by Congress July 6,
1965

Ratified February 10, 1967

-
- Andrew Glass



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26th Amendment: Right to Vote at Age 18

Passed by Congress March 23,
1971

Ratified July 1, 1971

- Maxwell Housman



Demonstration for reduction in voting age, Seattle, 1969. Image courtesy of MOHAI, Seattle Post-Intelligencer Collection, 1986.5.50631, photograph by Tom Barlet.

“Old enough to fight, old enough to vote!”

27th Amendment: Congressional Compensation

Originally proposed Sept.
25, 1789.
Ratified May 7, 1992.

- Marietta Hitzemann



Preamble: Group Read!

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Relay-Read of the
Constitution**

