

Congress and the Creation of the Bill of Rights

<i>Historical Action</i>	<i>Date</i>
The members of the Constitutional Convention sign the Constitution without a Bill of Rights.	September 17, 1787
State Ratifying Conventions meet and states propose a total of over 200 amendments to the Constitution.	December, 1787- May, 1788
Virginia Representative James Madison introduces a list of proposed amendments to be interwoven into the text of the Constitution.	May 4, 1789
The House debates Madison's proposed amendments and makes changes including the decision to add the amendments to the end of the Constitution.	June-July, 1789
The Senate debates and amends the House-passed articles of amendment to the Constitution.	August, 1789
A House and Senate Conference Committee reconcile the differences between the House and Senate versions.	September 1789
The full House and Senate vote to pass the articles of amendment and send twelve proposed amendments to the states for ratification.	September 1789
Two-thirds of the states ratified ten (three – twelve) of the amendments; these become known as the Bill of Rights and officially part of the Constitution.	By December 15, 1791