

The Bill of Rights

Worksheet 3: Decoding the Documents

1. _____ # of Amendment on House Final version of the Bill of Rights.
2. Translate the text of the Amendment into an 8-12 word "tweet."
3. Contextualize this amendment:

A. Was this amendment present in versions of the Bill of Rights which came before and after the House Final version? Mark an X in the box if the amendment is present in the version listed. In the last column, indicate whether the amendment relates to protecting a right or establishing a limit on government.

Pennsylvania Minority (view of Anti-Federalists)	James Madison's proposals	House Final (printed text as passed by House)	Senate Final (printed text as passed by Senate)	Bill of Rights (as ratified by the states)	R or L? (Rights or Limitations of government)
		X			

B. How was this amendment changed by the Senate from the version that was passed by the House?

C. If this amendment failed, when in the process did it do so?

4. Analyzing this amendment:

A. Why do you suppose the changes were made to the amendment? What were the authors trying to clarify? If no changes were made, do you think the wording was clear? Why?

B. Did the changes broaden or narrow the right or limitation? How?

C. What does the substance of this amendment contribute to understanding government under the Constitution?