

Text of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States

Sec.	Text	Purpose; Major Components; Major Points of Conflict
§1	<p>All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.</p>	<p>CITIZENSHIP Clause (overturning <i>Dred Scott</i>). PRIVILEGES & IMMUNITIES Clause (All Rights? Bill of Rights? Article IV Section 1? Rights Not Reserved to the States?) DUE PROCESS Clause. EQUAL PROTECTION Clause.</p>
§2	<p>Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.</p>	<p>REPRESENTATION and POPULATION</p> <p>VOTING AGE MALE CITIZEN INHABITANTS and REPRESENTATION</p> <p>(freed Slaves? Women? Immigrants? Paupers? Criminals?)</p>
§3	<p>No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.</p>	<p>In 1872, disabilities removed from all persons "except Senators and Representatives of the 36th and 37th Congresses, officers in the judicial, military and naval service of the United States, heads of departments, and foreign ministers of the United States." (Ch. 193, 17 Stat. 142). On June 6, 1898: "the disability imposed by section 3 . . . is hereby removed" (<i>Congressional Research Service</i>). Between 1888 and 1921, three former Confederate soldiers served on the U.S. Supreme Court.</p>
§4	<p>The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.</p>	<p>The Union debt is valid The Confederate debt is not No compensation for emancipated slaves</p>
§5	<p>The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.</p>	<p>Congress grants itself the power to enforce the Amendment. The Supreme Court does not recognize this power until the middle of the 20th Century.</p>