

# Can you change the Constitution?

**How Would You Change the Constitution?** Article V of the Constitution gives Congress the ability to propose amendments to the Constitution when 2/3 of the members of Congress agree to vote for it. Write how you would change the Constitution - this will become your proposed resolution.

*Example: I would give the District of Columbia voting rights.*

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## Stage 1: Will Congress support your amendment?

In order for your amendment to make it to the next step, two-thirds of both the House of Representatives and the Senate must vote in favor of your resolution. Roll four die to see if you can get enough support for your resolution to be voted on and passed in both houses.

**The Constituents  
(the people)**



**Your Political Party**



**Other Political Parties**



**There's always  
opposition!**



If you roll a 9 or more, you have the support of the people. Place your die in the square and roll the next die.

If you roll an 8 or less, the people don't support your amendment and Congress will not call for a vote.

If you roll an 11 or more, you have enough support from the people and your own party to call for a vote! Place your die in the square and roll the next die.

If you roll a 10 or less, the party doesn't support your amendment and you were not able to present it to Congress for a vote.

If you roll a 10 or more, you have support for your resolution in other parties. Place your die in the square to be added.

If you roll a 9 or less, other parties don't support your amendment so leave this square empty.

Roll the last die and put it here to be subtracted from your total.

Add and subtract the dice for your Roll Total.

If the Roll Total is 35 or more, your resolution passed both houses of Congress and you can go to stage 2!

If the Roll Total is 34 or less, Congress voted on your resolution, but unfortunately you weren't able to get enough support for a passing vote. Back to the drawing board!

## Stage 2: Will the State legislatures support your amendment?

After Congress votes in support of an amendment, the states vote to ratify, or officially approve, the change to the Constitution. Three fourths of state legislatures must vote to ratify the amendment in order for the change to pass. Roll four die to see if you can get enough support for your resolution from the states.

**The Constituents (the people)**

**Special Interest Groups**

**Bipartisan Support**

**There's always opposition!**

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If you roll an 11 or more, you have the support of the people. Place your die in the square and roll the next die.

If you roll a 10 or less, the people don't support your amendment and neither will the state legislature – your amendment was not ratified.

If you roll a 9 or more, special interest groups will help build support your resolution. Place your die in the square to be added.

If you roll an 8 or less, no special interest groups are supporting your amendment so leave this square empty.

If you roll an 11 or more, your amendment has bipartisan support. Place your die in the square to be added.

If you roll a 10 or less, you don't have bipartisan support for your amendment and your amendment was not ratified.

Roll the last die and put it here to be subtracted from your total.

Add and subtract the dice for your Roll Total.

If the Roll Total is 41 or more, your resolution was approved and ratified. Congratulations, you changed the Constitution!

If the Roll Total is 40 or less, the states didn't ratify your amendment.

## Fun Facts!

There's one other way for an amendment to be proposed - but it hasn't been used yet. An amendment can also be proposed if 2/3 of state legislatures call for a convention to propose amendments, and then ratified by conventions in 3/4 of the states. This is called a **Constitutional Convention**.

There have been over 11,000 different amendment proposals in the 240 years since our country became independent, but only 27 that made it through the amendment process!