HANDOUT 4.1.1 U.S. BILL OF RIGHTS PLUS "OTHER IMPORTANT AMENDMENTS"

AMENDMENT I

Congress shall make no law setting up one national or state religion. It cannot stop anyone from being part of a religion. No law can stop or get in the way of freedom of speech. No law can stop freedom of the press to write and print. No law can stop the right of the people to peacefully meet and talk. The people have a right to send complaints to the government.

AMENDMENT II

A well-organized small army can be set up for the safety of a free State. People have the right to own, carry and use weapons and guns. They shall not be limited or taken away.

AMENDMENT III

No soldier shall, in time of peace, live, eat or sleep in any house, without the approval of the owner. This cannot happen in time of war, unless this is changed by law.

AMENDMENT IV

The people have the right to protect their persons, houses, papers and things from unfair searches. Good reasons for these searches must be in writing. The permission is given to search only a certain place. Only certain, named people or things that have been written can be taken.

AMENDMENT V

No person shall be put in jail for crimes of murder, crimes against the government, stealing a lot of money, or badly hurting someone unless given a written copy of what the crime was. There must be evidence that supports the arrest, except when soldiers and/or sailors of our country are at war or the people of the United States are in danger. No person can be arrested and go to trial more than once for the same crime. Never shall the person on trial be forced in any criminal case to be a witness against himself. No person shall lose his life, freedom, money, land or things, without a chance to have a judge or jury decide the result. Property owned by a person cannot be taken to be used by the public, without fair payment of money to the person who owns the property.

AMENDMENT VI

In all criminal trials, the person on trial shall have the right to a speedy and public trial, by a fair jury of the State and place where the crime happened. The person has to be told the reasons for being on trial. The person can face and listen to the witnesses against him. The person can have his own witnesses to help him, witnesses to explain the facts and can have a lawyer to help him defend himself.

AMENDMENT VII

In civil court, when a person is sued for more than 20 dollars, the right of trial by jury is still the person's right. This can happen only one time and there is no way to change the final result unless it is according to the rules of the common law.

AMENDMENT VIII

People have a right to pay a fair amount of money to stay out of jail before and at the time of the trial. If the person is found guilty, he must pay a fair amount of money for a fine. Other punishments cannot be too cruel.

AMENDMENT IX

Certain rights in the Constitution shall not be seen to be the only rights. There are more rights that are given to and held by the people.

AMENDMENT X

The powers not given to the United States by the Constitution are given to each of the States and to the people.

AMENDMENT XIII

Slavery shall not exist within the United States, or any place ruled by the United States, but being a servant as punishment for crime is still allowed.

AMENDMENT XIV

Persons born in the United States are citizens of the United States and of the State in which they live, and naturalized persons who are born in other countries can follow rules to become citizens of the United States and of the State in which they live. No State shall make any law that limits the rights of citizens of the United States, and no State can take a person's life, liberty, or property without a trial or due process of law. Every citizen shall have equal protection under the laws.

AMENDMENT XV

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or changed by the United States or by any State because of race, color or having been a slave.

AMENDMENT XIX

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or changed by the United States or by any State because of the sex of the voter.

AMENDMENT XXVI

The right of citizens of the United States, who are at least 18 years of age or older to vote, shall not be denied or changed by the United States or by any State.

➤ **Resources:**

The above text is available at 5 reading levels at https://newsela.com.
"Primary Sources: The Bill of Rights." *Newsela* 22 June 2016. https://newsela.com/read/primary-source-billofrights/id/18276.
"Primary Sources: The Constitution, Amendments 11-27." *Newsela* 21 September 2016. https://newsela.com/read/primary-source-amendment-constitution/id/21612.
"You've Got Rights!" *iCivics*. https://www.icivics.org/teachers/lesson-plans/youve-got-rights. Handout 4.1.3 Matching Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms to Germany's Basic Law