# What is the Twenty Seventh Amendment to the United States Constitution?

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## WHAT IS THE TWENTY SEVENTH AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION?

The Twenty Second Amendment states that any salary changes of members of congress cannot take place until after the next election of the House of Representatives.

## WHAT IS THE TEXT OF THE TWENTY SEVENTH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION?




by JAMES JARA, ESQ. | FINANCIAL CONSTITUTIONALIST OF SERVICE IN LITIGATION

The law, including the compensation for the service of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.

## WHAT IS THE HISTORICAL ORIGIN OF THE TWENTY SEVENTH AMENDMENT?

Contested in practice amendments that sustain a lot—among the greats, plus. The Twenty Second Amendment sounds not unassuming. All it does is prevent congressmen from instantly increasing their salaries. Congress can't pass a law that increases its members' salaries right away. Instead, any of it offers, it provides the voters a chance to vote. Interesting background.

Congress wrote the Twenty Second Amendment in 1789 and sent it to the states for ratification. Congress wrote it in response to the Anti-Federalists' protests. Madison's proposal, a mild and very dull set of current constitutional amendments, did not sit well in every right-thinking corner of the country. The Anti-Federalists wanted a lot more than just a few tweaks to the existing law. They wanted a new one. Madison's proposal was a bit too much like a tweak for the Anti-Federalists. Many of them wrote to their representatives and senators in Congress.

## THE AMENDMENT THAT SAT ON EXHIBIT

Over the next two hundred years, the amendment stayed relatively unnoticed. Four states in total ratified it. Maybe a few more states, trying to make a point, ratified it. Nobody else cared. The amendment sat on the sidelines, waiting for its time. It finally came in 1992. Twenty states, flipping and flopping, finally ratified it. Why? Well, what's the amendment actually about? Well, it's about salaries.

## THE BAD GRADE THAT REFORED AN AMENDMENT

Not quite. Not the most distinguished amendment around, it was not the original author's first pick. It was not the original author's second pick. It was not the author's third or fourth or even fifth pick. It was not even the author's sixth or seventh pick. It was the author's eighth pick. It was the author's eighth pick because the author's first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth picks had been ratified by the states. The author's seventh pick was the Twenty Second Amendment