

# 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, February 27, 1869

Feb. 27, 1869.

Fifteenth amendment to the Constitution

[No. 14.]

A resolution proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, (two thirds of both houses concurring,) That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment of the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three fourths of said legislatures, shall be valid as part of the Constitution, namely:

Article XV.

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Sec. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Schuyler Colfax,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

B.F. Wade,  
President of the Senate pro tempore.

Attest:  
Edwd. McPherson,  
Clerk of House of Representatives

Geo. C. Gorham,  
Sec'y of Senate U.S.

Received at Department of State February 27, 1869.