

date	amended & clarified	title	highlights	pdf file at loc.gov
1774 10 20		<p>Articles of Association (the first of 3 US Constitutions or corporate by-laws)</p> <p>Item 2. We will neither import nor purchase, any slave imported after the first day of December next; after which time, we will wholly discontinue the slave trade, and will neither be concerned in it ourselves, nor will we hire our vessels, nor sell our commodities or manufactures to those who are concerned in it.</p>	<p>Colonial leaders incorporated themselves for collective bargaining with Great Britain on issues of personal &amp; property rights, without official validation. Relinquishes the right to import or cause the immigration of slave labor.</p>	
1774 10 20	1776 07 04	<p>Declaration of Independence</p> <p>Item: The King of Great Britain ... has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migrations hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.</p>	<p>Negotiations failed. The Association advised member colonists to enact constitutions to declare themselves independent states &amp; create new governments to validate the Association. Their Declaration establishes that the foundation of government is the personal &amp; property rights of the people, but fails to provide a full list of all the rights; and only implies some rights in negative rather than positive terms. One item implies that colonists wanted immigration.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm">http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm</a></p>
1774 10 20	1776 03 26	<p>Constitution of South Carolina</p> <p>Item: The English laws and a free government, to which the inhabitants of Quebec were entitled by the King's royal proclamation, are abolished and French laws are restored; the Roman Catholic religion (although before tolerated and freely exercised there) and an absolute government are established in that province, and its limits extended through a vast tract of country so as to border on the free Protestant English settlements, with design of using a whole people differing in religious principles from the neighboring colonies, and subject to arbitrary power, as fit instruments to overawe and subdue the colonies.</p>	<p>Clarifies that Catholics are a threat to the persons &amp; property of Protestants in the colonies, same as in Europe.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm">http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm</a></p>

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1774 10 20	1776 09 28	<p>Constitution of Pennsylvania</p> <p>Item: The king of Great Britain ... carr(ies) on, with unabated vengeance, a most cruel and unjust war against them, employing therein, not only the troops of Great Britain, but foreign mercenaries, savages and slaves, for the avowed purpose of reducing them to a total and abject submission to the despotic domination of the British parliament, with many other acts of tyranny, (more fully set forth in the declaration of Congress).</p>	<p>Clarifies that aliens, Amerindians and African-American slaves are a threat to the personal &amp; property rights of white colonists..</p>	<p><a href="http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm">http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm</a></p>
1774 10 20	1777 07 08	<p>First Constitution of Vermont</p> <p>Item: The King of England carries on with unabated vengeance the troops of Great Britain, but foreign mercenaries, savages and slaves, for the avowed purpose of reducing them to a total and abject submission to the despotic domination ...</p> <p>Item: (New York has and still continues) an unjust claim to those lands, which greatly retards emigration into, and the settlement of, this State.</p>	<p>New York, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts claimed dominion over Vermont. Vermont established its own government in defiance of the three other colonies. Vermont complained that New York tripled the quit-rent on landed property. (When monarchies owned all land, occupants paid rent. The property tax replaced quit-rent after the Revoluton when people acquired true real estate titles. New York didn't cede its claim to Vermont and taxing power until 1790.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm">http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm</a></p>

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1774 10 20	1781 03 01	<p>Articles of Confederation</p> <p>Item: II. Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom, and independence, and every power, jurisdiction, and right, which is not by this Confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress assembled.</p> <p>Item: III. The said States hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, for their common defense, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other, against all force offered to, or attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or any other pretense whatever.</p> <p>Item: VIII. All charges of war, and all other expenses that shall be incurred for the common defense or general welfare, and allowed by the United States in Congress assembled, shall be defrayed out of a common treasury, which shall be supplied by the several States in proportion to the value of all land within each State, granted or surveyed for any person, as such land and the buildings and improvements thereon shall be estimated according to such mode as th</p> <p>The taxes for paying that proportion shall be laid and lev</p>	<p>The Continental Congress ratified their second constitution (corporate by-laws) in 1777, but couldn't enforce it until Maryland concurred in 1781.</p> <p>It clarifies that religion could be an excuse to attack the people and the states.</p> <p>The Articles establish a federal power to tax real estate by assessed valuation to finance the federal government and its debts, and makes states do all the work. However, debates clarified that a property tax can't be assessed fairly; and the tax wasn't instituted. The Confederation assumed state war debts and agreed that revenue from the sale of public land and a tax on imports was more consistent with democratic principles to pay the costs of government.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm">http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/18th.htm</a></p>

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	1785 05 20	<p>An Ordinance for ascertaining the mode of disposing of Lands in the Western Territory.</p> <p>Item: There shall be reserved for the United States out of every township, the four lots, being numbered 8, 11, 26, 29, and out of every fractional part of a township, so many lots of the same numbers as shall be found thereon, for future sale. There shall be reserved the lot N 16, of every township, for the maintenance of public schools, within the said township; also one third part of all gold, silver, lead and copper mines, to be sold, or otherwise disposed of as Congress shall hereafter direct.</p>	<p>At the 1783 Treaty of Paris, the King of Great Britain ceded a large territory to the Americans that France had previously ceded to him. Several of the original states claimed the territory, but ceded it to the Continental Congress so it could be sold and bring in money to pay down debts. The ordinance that governs land sales reserves approx. 16% of the land from sale so that rental income can finance democratic government. The reservations are a permanent exemption from taxation of every kind, especially the property tax. The 1785 Ordinance includes a template of real estate titles that guarantees the land forever to purchasers, their heirs and assigns. Subsequent Congresses allowed reservations to be sold in defiance of a Supreme Court decision that confirms the forever-ness of reservations. The people who disappeared the reservations also disappeared townships &amp; lot numbers, especially in areas of dense immigrant population. However, townships &amp; lots (sections) survive in the legal descriptions of all landed property in former territories.</p>	<p><a href="http://score.rims.k12.ca.us/resources/grades/?u=102">http://score.rims.k12.ca.us/resources/grades/?u=102</a></p>
	1787 09			

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1793 02 02		Contested Seat of Gallatin (Pennsylvania). pages 11-71 in Annals of 3rd Congress, 1st session, Senate, in A Century of Lawmaking, Congressional documents	Establishes that naturalization was a power of colonies and then of original states. Gallatin emigrated from Switzerland under English law before the American Revolution with money to buy a large quantity of land. He lived in several colonies, attended Harvard & participated in the Revolution, but didn't qualify for citizenship. While the Senate heard arguments & considered facts, Gallatin worked on the committee to establish the controversial national bank. He lost his Senate seat, but became US Treasurer & administered the sale of public lands. Pennsylvania Quakers petitioned Senate to abolish trade in African-American slaves based on clause in 1774 Articles of Association. French Revolution was in process; and President Washington complained that new French envoy was disrespectful despite previous good relations. Lafayette, a French nobleman, asked Congress to pay him for his service in the American Revolution.	<a href="https://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html">https://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html</a>
1798 04 07	1798 04 07	An act for the relief of the refugees from the British provinces of Canada and Nova Scotia	Land grants for Canadian rebels who tried and failed to extend American Revolution to Canada	
1798 04 07	1801 02 18	An act regulating the grants of land appropriated for the refugees from the British provinces of Canada and Nova Scotia.(a)	US surveyors to plat 320 acre homesteads for the rebels	c6s2ch5
1798 04 07	1810 02 24	An Act further to provide for the refugees from the British provinces of Canada and Nova Scotia, and for other purposes	Lists qualifications to receive land grants	c11s2ch12
1798 04 07	1812 04 23	An Act making provision for certain persons claiming lands under the several acts for the relief of the refugees from the British provinces of Canada and Nova Scotia.	Grants 320 acres to named heirs of named Canadian rebels	c12s1ch63

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1819 02 22		Treaty of Amity, Settlement & Limits with Spain	His Catholic Majesty cedes his property & sovereignty east of the Mississippi River, known as East & West Florida. Inhabitants secure in free exercise of their religion. They may remove to Spanish dominions. If they stay, they'll enter the Union as soon as the constitution permits and enjoy all the rights, privileges & immunities of US citizens. Spanish land grants after 1818 January 24 voided. The US will ratify & confirm to possessors Spanish grants before 1818 January 24. Ships & products of Spain & Spanish colonies to have special privileges for 12 years at the Pensacola & St. Augustine ports.	b-es-ust000011-0528
1819 02 22	1898 12 10	Treaty of Peace, Treaty of Paris with Spain	Spain cedes Cuba, Puerto Rico, other islands in West Indies, Guam & Philippines to US. US & Spain will exchange war prisoners. Spain will evacuate the various islands. Spain may keep all property of its military on the Pacific islands. Spain cedes all government property to the public domain. Provinces, municipalities, churches & individuals retain their rights to private property. Spain cedes all archives & documents related to their personal & property rights. Spanish subjects may stay in the territories. They may keep their allegiance to Spain by declaration made within one year. Otherwise, they renounce it and acquire the nationality of the territory. The US Congress will determine the political status of native inhabitants. Freedom of religion.	
1819 02 22	1902 07 03	Treaty of Friendship & General Relations US & Spain	Citizens & subjects of the two nations have reciprocal rights to enter, travel, reside & practise their industries & businesses in all parts of their respective territories, subject to the laws and the right to expel. They may buy, sell, & inherit property in all the territories. Exempt from military draft by the foreign power.	

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1819 02 22	1933 01 17	An act to enable the people of the Philippines to make a constitution, form a government and gain independence.	Until the US completely withdraws, an interim Philippine Bill of Rights shall say Philippine officials & civilians owe allegiance to the US, allow religious freedom, & exempt religious, educational & charitable organizations from taxation.. The new government will assume the debts of the old government, including obligations to Spain, and will service them with an export tax. Philippine citizens who aren't US citizens are aliens under US immigration laws of 1917 & 1924. Their annual quota is 50, except to meet labor needs in Hawaii. When Philippines are free & sovereign, they will respect & safeguard property rights of US citizens & corporations.	c72s2ch11
1844 07 03	1844 07 03	Treaty of Peace, Amity & Friendship between US and Ta Tsing Empire of China	US government officials & citizens may enter, live & do business in China under the protection of Chinese officials on the condition that they're peaceful and respectful. They may hire Chinese citizens for a variety of services.	b-cn-ust000006-0647
1844 07 03	1858 06 18	Treaty of Peace, Amity & Friendship between US and Ta Tsing Empire of China	US missionaries may teach Protestant & Roman Catholic Christianity to Chinese people.	b-cn-ust000006-0659
1844 07 03	1858 11 08	Treaty to Regulate Trade between US and Ta Tsing Empire of China	US merchants may not bring guns, gunpowder, salpetre, sulphur, brimstone & spelter into Chinese ports, but may bring in opium for Chinese merchants to sell in the interior after paying the import tax.	b-cn-ust000006-0671
1844 07 03	1880 11 17	Treaty to limit & suspend immigration of Chinese nationals to US	Chinese teachers, merchants, students, tourists and their servants and laborers already in the US may go and come under the protection of US government.	b-cn-ust000006-0685
1844 07 03	1882 05 06	An act to execute certain treaty stipulations relating to Chinese	10-year moratorium on importation of labor from China because, in the opinion of the Government of the United States, the coming of Chinese laborers to this country endangers the good order of certain localities within the territory. Chinese laborers already in US may apply to leave.	c47s1ch126

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1844 07 03	1882 07 05	An act to amend the act of 1882 May 6	Immigration of Chinese laborers suspended for 10 years to maintain order in the territories. Persons exempted. Penalties for violations include seizure of ships.	c48s1ch220
1858 05 11		An Act for the Relief of the Hungarian Settlers upon certain Tracts of Land in Iowa, hitherto reserved from Sale by Order of the President, dated January twenty-two, eighteen hundred and fifty-five.	European squatters in Iowa legalized as pre-emptors with right to keep public land that they've improved.	c35s1ch36
1864 03 03		Act to provide for the Protection of Overland Emigration to the States and Territories of the Pacific.	Appropriation to War Department to protect settlers passing west of Missouri River	c38s1ch18
1864 07 04		An act to encourage immigration	Creates office of Commissioner of Immigration in State Department. US courts to enforce contracts by emigrants to pay for transport. Creates US Emigrant Office in New York. Officials may not have financial interest in the transport of emigrants or sale of land to them. Annual report of foreign immigration to Congress.	c38s1ch246
1874 04 17		An act to authorize the employment of certain aliens as engineers and pilots	License to engineer or pilot steam vessels may be issued to aliens who've been resident 6 months & declared intention to become naturalized citizens.	c43s1ch107
1875 03 03		An act supplementary to the acts in relation to immigration	Prohibits involuntary immigration of slave labor (coolie trade) and contractual immigration of sex workers from Asia.	c43s2ch141
1882 08 03		An act to regulate immigration	An import tax to be paid on all non-citizens entering at all US ports and deposited in The Immigrant Fund of the US Treasury to offset costs of regulating immigration and caring for immigrants.	