

The Neglected Amendments of the U.S. Constitution

The Neglected Amendments of the U.S. Constitution

Text, History, and Interpretation

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*To Professor Michael A. Graham—
an exceptional college teacher of the U.S. Constitution*

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Acknowledgments

Every book has a backstory, and this book is no different. The idea for this book first came to me while I was in law school (1981). When we skipped from the Second Amendment to the Fourth Amendment, my constitutional law professor told us not to worry about the Third Amendment. When we then skipped from the Eighth Amendment to the Tenth Amendment, and then from the Eleventh Amendment to the Thirteenth Amendment, I became determined to find out what was in these omitted provisions.

During my many years as a law professor, I have found that even other law professors often do not know what is in the “neglected amendments” (as I have come to call them). Thus, this book aims to cast some light on them. In doing so, it reminds me of the story of Gregory D. Watson, the “discoverer” of the Twenty-Seventh Amendment. His story is told in Chapter 3.D. of this book. The stories of many other little-known folks appear elsewhere in the text.

No author labors alone, and, as usual, I am grateful for the support of my wife Judi. I also wish to thank my law school, which gave me a sabbatical to transform my ideas into a manuscript; Carolina Academic Press, which took my manuscript and turned it into a book; and Cagle Cartoons, Inc., for granting me permission to publish (following Problem 43) Jeff Parker’s cartoon “Distraction Values Bill,” which first appeared in *Florida Today* (July 12, 2006).

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Comments, corrections, and suggestions are invited and can be sent to me at jarvisb@nova.edu.

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