

History of Amendments to Vt. Const. Ch. I, Art. 1**1777 Vt. Const.:**

That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, amongst which are the enjoying and defending life and liberty; acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety. Therefore, no male person, born in this country, or brought from over sea, ought to be holden by law, to serve any person, as a servant, slave, or apprentice, after he arrives to the age of twenty-one years; nor female, in like manner, after she arrives to the age of eighteen years, unless they are bound by their own consent, after they arrive to such age, or bound by law for the payment of debts, damages, fines, costs, or the like.

1786 Vt. Const.: [no change]**1793 Vt. Const.:**

That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, amongst which are the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety; **therefore**, no male person born in this country, or brought from over sea, ought to be holden by law, to serve any person as a servant, slave, or apprentice, after he arrives to the age of twenty one years, nor female in like manner, after she arrives to the age of eighteen years, unless they are bound by their own consent, after they arrive to such age, or bound by law for the payment of debts, damages, fines, costs, or the like.

1924's 37th Article of Amendment ([1921, Prop. 18](#)):

That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, amongst which are the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety; **therefore no person** born in this country, or brought from over sea, ought to be holden by law, to serve any person as a servant, slave or apprentice, after he arrives to the age of **twenty-one years, unless** he is bound by his own consent, after he arrives to such age, or is bound by law for the payment of debts, damages, fines, costs, or the like.

1994's 52nd Article of Amendment ([1991, Prop 11](#)) [*added [Vt. Const. Ch. II, § 76](#), which directed the SCOV Justices to revise the Vt. Const. "in gender inclusive language"*]:

That all **persons** are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, amongst which are the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety; therefore no person born in this country, or brought from over sea, ought to be holden by law, to serve any person as a servant, slave or apprentice, **after arriving** to the age of twenty-one years, **unless bound** by **the person's** own consent, **after arriving** to such age, or bound by law for the payment of debts, damages, fines, costs, or the like.