**ARTICLE I.**

***Declaration of Rights.***

**Section 1.** That all power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness; for the advancement of those ends they have at all times, an unalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform, or abolish the government in such manner as they may think proper.

**Section 2.** That government being instituted for the common benefit, the doctrine of nonresistance against arbitrary power and oppression is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.

**Section 8.** That no man shall be taken or imprisoned, or disseized of his freehold, liberties or privileges, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any manner destroyed or deprived of his life, liberty or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

**Section 17.** That all courts shall be open; and every man, for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial, or delay. Suits may be brought against the state in such manner and in such courts as the Legislature may by law direct.

**Section 18.** The Legislature shall pass no law authorizing imprisonment for debt in civil cases.

**Section 20.** That no retrospective law, or law impairing the obligations of contracts, shall be made

**Section 22.** That perpetuities and monopolies are contrary to the genius of a free state, and shall not be allowed.

**Section 23.** That the citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for their common good, **to instruct their representatives**, **and to apply to those invested with the powers of government for redress of grievances**, or other proper purposes, **by address of remonstrance**.

**Remonstrance**: Expostulation; showing of reasons against something proposed; a representation made to a court or legislative body wherein certain persons unite in urging that a contemplated measure be not adopted or passed. **A formal protest against the policy or conduct of the government or of certain officials drawn up and presented by aggrieved citizens.** *Black’s Law Dictionary 5th Edition.*

**Remonstrance**: **1.** A presentation of reasons for opposition or grievance. **2.** **A formal document stating reasons for opposition or grievance**, **3.** **A formal complaint or protest against governmental policy, actions, or officials**. *Black’s Law Dictionary 10th Edition.*

**Section 30.** That no hereditary emoluments, privileges, or honors, shall ever be granted or conferred in this state.

**Emolument**: The profit arising from office or employment; that which is received as a possession of office as salary, fees, and perquisites, from the possession of an office. *Black’s Law Dictionary 5th Edition.*

**Emolument:** Any advantage, profit, or gain received as a result of one’s employment or one’s holding of office. *Black’s Law Dictionary 10th Edition.*

**Section 34.** The General Assembly shall make no law recognizing the right of property in man.

**ARTICLE II.**

***Distribution of Powers.***

**Section 2.** No person or persons belonging to one of these departments shall exercise any of the powers properly belonging to either of the others, except in the cases herein directed or permitted.

**ARTICLE V.**

**Impeachments.**

**Section 1. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment**.

**Section 2. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate**. When sitting for that purpose the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation, and the chief justice of the Supreme Court, or if he be on trial, the senior associate judge, shall preside over them. No person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the senators sworn to try the officer impeached.

**Section 3.** The House of Representatives shall elect from their own body three members, whose duty it shall be to prosecute impeachments. **No impeachment shall be tried until the Legislature shall have adjourned *sine die*, when the Senate shall proceed to try such impeachment.**

**Section 4. The governor, judges of the Supreme Court, judges of the inferior courts, chancellors, attorneys for the state, treasurer, comptroller, and secretary of state, shall be liable to impeachment,** **whenever they may, in the opinion of the House of Representatives, commit any crime in their official capacity which may require disqualification but judgment shall only extend to removal from office, and disqualification to fill any office thereafter.** **The party shall, nevertheless, be liable to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment according to law.** The Legislature now has, and shall continue to have, power to relieve from the penalties imposed, any person disqualified from holding office by the judgment of a **Court of Impeachment**.

**Section 5. Justices of the peace, and other civil officers not herein before mentioned, for crimes or misdemeanors in office, shall be liable to indictment in such courts as the Legislature may direct; and upon conviction, shall be removed from office by said court, as if found guilty on impeachment; and shall be subject to such other punishment as may be prescribed by law**.

**ARTICLE X.**

**Oaths, Bribery of Electors, New Counties.**

**Section 2.** Each member of the Senate and House of Representatives, shall before they proceed to business take an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of this state, and of the United States and also the following oath: I\_\_\_\_\_\_ do solemnly swear (or affirm) that as a member of this General Assembly, I will, in all appointments, vote without favor, affection, partiality, or prejudice; and that **I will not propose or assent to any bill, vote or resolution, which shall appear to me injurious to the people, or consent to any act or thing, whatever, that shall have a tendency to lessen or abridge their rights and privileges, as declared by the Constitution of this state**.

**ARTICLE XI.**

**Miscellaneous Provisions.**

**Section 8. The Legislature shall have no power** to suspend any general law for the benefit of any particular individual, nor to pass any law for the benefit of individuals inconsistent with the general laws of the land; **nor to pass any law granting to any individual or individuals, rights, privileges, immunitie [immunities], or exemptions other than such as may be, by the same law extended to any member of the community, who may be able to bring himself within the provisions of such law.** No corporation shall be created or its powers increased or diminished by special laws but the General Assembly shall provide by general laws for the organization of all corporations, hereafter created, which laws may, at any time, be altered or repealed, and no such alteration or repeal shall interfere with or divest rights which have become vested.

**Section 16. The declaration of rights hereto prefixed is declared to be a part of the Constitution of the state, and shall never be violated on any pretense whatever.** And to guard against transgression of the high powers we have delegated, **we declare that everything in the bill of rights contained, is excepted out of the general powers of the government, and shall forever remain inviolate**.

**U.S. Constitution**

**Article IV**

**Section 1.**

**Full faith and credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other state**. And the Congress may by general laws prescribe the manner in which such acts, records, and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

**Section 2.**

**The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states.**

**Section 4.**

**The United States shall guarantee to every state in this union a republican form of government**, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and on application of the legislature, or of the executive (when the legislature cannot be convened) against domestic violence.

**Amendment I**

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

**Amendment VII**

**In suits at common law**, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, **the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common** law.

**Common Law**: As distinguished from the law created by the enactment of legislatures, **the common law comprises the body of those principles and rules of action relating to the government and security of persons and property, which derive their authority solely from usages and customs of immemorial antiquity**, or from the judgments and decrees of the courts recognizing, affirming, and enforcing such usages and customs; and, in this sense, particularly the ancient unwritten law of England. The “common law” is all the statutory and case law background of England and the American colonies before the American Revolution. People v. Rehman, 253 C.A.2d 119, 61 CalRptr.65,85. **“Common Law” consists of those principles, usage, and rules of action applicable to government and security of persons and property which do not rest for their authority upon express and positive declaration of the will of the legislature**. Bishop v. U.S. D.C. Tex., 334 F.Supp. 415 418

**As distinguished from ecclesiastical law, it is the system of jurisprudence administered the purely secular tribunals**. *Black’s Law Dictionary 5th Edition.* (Secular: Not Spiritual, Tribunal: The seat of a judge)

**Common Law action**: Action governed by common law, rather than statutory, equitable, or civil law. *Black’s Law Dictionary 5th Edition.*

**Amendment IX**

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

**Amendment X**

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

**Amendment XIV**

**Section 1.**

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. **No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.**