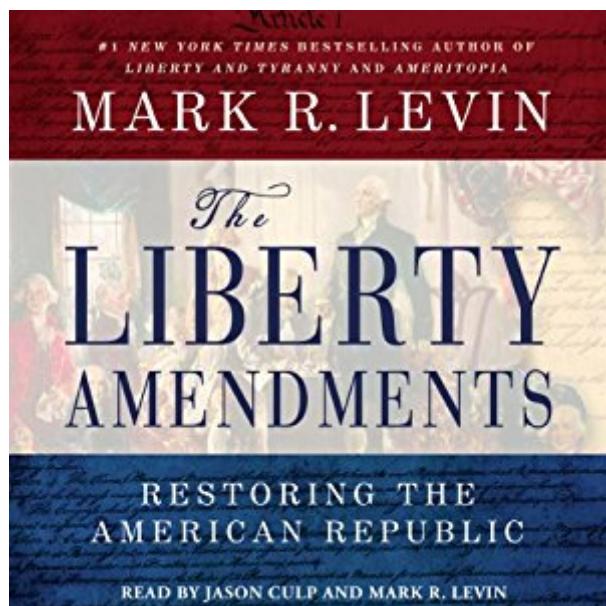


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The Liberty Amendments: Restoring The American Republic



Synopsis

Mark R. Levin has made the case, in numerous New York Times best-selling books - Men in Black, Liberty and Tyranny, and Ameritopia - that the principles undergirding our society and governmental system are unravelling. In *The Liberty Amendments*, he turns to the founding fathers and the constitution itself for guidance in restoring the American republic. For a century, the Statists have steadfastly constructed a federal Leviathan, distorting and evading our constitutional system in pursuit of an all-powerful, ubiquitous central government. The result is an ongoing and growing assault on individual liberty, state sovereignty, and the social compact. Levin argues that if we cherish our American heritage, it is time to embrace a constitutional revival. The delegates to the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia and the delegates to each state's ratification convention foresaw a time when - despite their best efforts to forestall it - the Federal government might breach the Constitution's limits and begin oppressing the people. Agencies such as the IRS and the EPA and programs such as Obamacare demonstrate that the Framers' fear was prescient. Therefore, the Framers provided two methods for amending the Constitution. The second was intended for our current circumstances - empowering the states to bypass Congress and call a convention for the purpose of amending the Constitution. Levin argues that we, the people, can avoid a perilous outcome by seeking recourse, using the method called for in the Constitution itself. The Framers adopted 10 constitutional amendments, called the Bill of Rights, that would preserve individual rights and state authority. Levin lays forth 11 specific prescriptions for restoring our founding principles, ones that are consistent with the Framers' design. His proposals - such as term limits for members of Congress and Supreme Court justices and limits on federal taxing and spending - are pure common sense, ideas shared by many. They draw on the wisdom of the Founding Fathers - including James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and numerous lesser-known but crucially important men - in their content and in the method for applying them to the current state of the nation. Now is the time for the American people to take the first step toward reclaiming what belongs to them. The task is daunting, but it is imperative if we are to be truly free.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Mark Levin is a radio host and a Constitutional scholar. Invoking Article V of the Constitution, which sets out methods for amendments, Levin has proposed a number of changes to term limits, taxation, restoring states' power and more. Currently, states' powers have been almost completely overruled by Federal laws and mandates, debt is out of control, stretching past two generations of American's ability to pay it off. Government spending is a significant proportion of GDP and the GDP itself is stagnating; is this caused by the heavy burden of non-productive government spending? Government regulation has even gone so far as to dictate what kind of light bulb can be manufactured and sold and choices in healthcare may soon be dictated by unelected bureaucrats. For those who think that this kind of centralized power is dangerous and even tyrannical, Levin's amendments seek to address the power that the Federal government has arrogated unto itself, a power that never was the original intent of the Founding Fathers and which reduces individual liberty significantly. Levin's amendments include:

1. Term limits, including for justices.
2. Repealing Amendment 17 and returning the election of senators to state legislatures.
3. A congressional supermajority to override Supreme Court decisions (overruling what could be a stacked court).
4. Spending limit based on GDP.
5. Taxation capped at 15%.
6. Limiting the commerce clause, and strengthening private property rights.
7. Power of states to override a federal statute by a three-fifths vote.

These ideas will be opposed by those who favor central planning and a very powerful federal government, who believe that a few should decide the fate of many, who like the current system and the way it's headed. It will also be ignored by those who think that there is too much inertia to oppose the direction we're headed. It's true there are powerful forces at work fundamentally transforming the nation, but it's also true that there is a plurality of opinion throughout the US. For those who wonder how we've gotten to where we are presently, and how we might restore personal liberty and more localized government, where we have MORE of a say, not less, this is a very

important book and worth reading and discussing.

As far as the federal government is concerned, the horse is out of the barn. Over a century of progressive assaults on our constitutional republican form of government has eroded the Constitution to a weak echo of its original intent. Electing conservative presidents and Congress members are not enough to reverse the damage that has been done by a federal leviathan unleashed in bureaucratic regulations and unsustainable spending; as the Framers predicted, an out-of-control federal government could only be restrained by a convention of the states to amend the Constitution. Mark Levin addresses what an Article V Convention of the States might look like in his informative book **THE LIBERTY AMENDMENTS**. If I'm up to speed, about half a dozen state legislatures have thus far passed resolutions calling for a convention of the states; while that's a far cry from the two-thirds of state legislatures required in Article V, Levin nevertheless addresses the issues he would like to see resolved in the unlikely event a convention is called. To summarize the various amendments Levin would like to see passed by a convention of the states (and the amendments preface each chapter): term limits, for both Congress and the Supreme Court; repealing the 17th Amendment so that Senators would again be elected by--and accountable to--their state legislatures; amendments to reverse executive orders, statutes, and Supreme Court decisions; an amendment to rein in taxes and spending; an amendment to respect private property rights; and an amendment to do away with voter fraud. As Levin discusses these issues, he points to current abuses of federal power--but he also goes back to the rationale of the Framers, and here's where his book bogs down. If I would like to read a 1.5-page passage from James Madison in 'Federalist 45', I'll go pick up a copy of "Federalist 45". This constant meandering back to 1787 interferes with the pacing of Levin's arguments, set in the context of today's dysfunctional America. It's a device that, in this reviewer's opinion, takes away from absolute enjoyment of **THE LIBERTY AMENDMENTS**. While those of us concerned with the demise of constitutional republicanism keep our fingers crossed that two-thirds of the states will finally call for a convention of the states, at least Mark Levin gives us an outline of reforms that might be addressed at such a convention in **THE LIBERTY AMENDMENTS**. It's a convention this reviewer would happily attend. ~D. Mikels, Esq.

Absolutely amazing. Such a cogent writer!!! The first sentence of the book is 50 words!!!! What's up George Washington? George Washington is known to have written sentences that were on average 50 words or more, longer than Abraham Lincoln, and George is on the front of the book. Excellent way to begin my weekend coming home from work with your book waiting in the mailbox. I could not

put it down last night and stayed up until the early hours this morning (03:30) finishing it! I know I talked with a friend that is knowledgeable of the Constitution, and he and I were discussing how we had no idea whatsoever about Article 5. Looking forward to restore the republic with you Brothers and Sisters. (Greg Johnson, FL)

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