

- U.S. Constitution | SOL USI. 7b(cont.)



Ratification of the Constitution

- **Nine** of the thirteen states had to vote in favor of the Constitution before it could become **law**.

Bill of Rights

- Based on the **Virginia Declaration of Rights** (George Mason) and the **Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom** (Thomas Jefferson)
- The first **ten** amendments to the Constitution provide a written guarantee of individual **rights** (e.g., freedom of speech, freedom of religion).

Essential Understanding: The development of the Constitution of the U.S. was significant to the foundation of the American Republic. It established a federal system of government based on power shared between the national and state governments.