

First Amendment to the United States Constitution:

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.

James Madison's original proposal:

The civil rights of none shall be abridged on account of religious belief or worship, nor shall any national religion be established, nor shall the full and equal rights of conscience be in any manner, or on any pretence, infringed.

House version after amendment:

Congress shall make no law establishing religion, or to prevent the free exercise thereof, or to infringe the rights of conscience.

Senate amendment:

Congress shall make no law establishing articles of faith, or a mode of worship, or prohibiting the free exercise of religion . . .

The final version was adopted in a conference committee, chaired by Madison.