

**BENCHMARK SS.7.C.3.5**

<b>Strand</b>	C Civics and Government
<b>Reporting Category</b>	Organization and Function of Government
<b>Standard</b>	Demonstrate an understanding of the principles, functions, and organization of government.
<b>Benchmark</b>	<b>SS.7.C.3.5 Explain the constitutional amendment process.</b>
<b>Benchmark Clarifications</b>	<p>Students will recognize the methods used to propose and ratify amendments to the U.S. Constitution.</p> <p>Students will be able to identify the correct sequence of each amendment process.</p> <p>Students will identify the importance of a formal amendment process.</p> <p>Students will recognize the significance of the difficulty of formally amending the U.S. Constitution.</p>
<b>Content Limits</b>	<p>Items will not ask students to recall the content of specific amendments.</p> <p>Items will not require students to be familiar with the historical context of any amendment.</p>
<b>Stimulus Attribute</b>	Items addressing the constitutional amendment process may use historical and contemporary documents and other relevant stimuli (e.g., maps, timelines, charts, graphs, tables).
<b>Content Focus</b>	These terms are given in addition to those found in the standards, benchmarks, and benchmark clarifications. Additional items may include, but are not limited to, the following: caucus.

**Sample Item 24**      **SS.7.C.3.5**      **Content Focus**      Amendment Process

Which is the last step in amending the U.S. Constitution?

- A. The voters approve the amendment in a national election.
- B. The president signs the amendment in a public ceremony.
- ★ C. Three-fourths of the state legislatures ratify the amendment.
- D. Two-thirds of both houses of Congress ratify the amendment.