

Appendix II.

Summary of Convention Amendments

Year	Accepted or Rejected	Summary of Amendments
1777	-----	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Religious freedom, trial by jury, property owner’s right to vote, due process, right to counsel, and protection from bills of attainder. ◦ Codified common law.
1801	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Increase in population led to increase in size of legislature. Senators set at 32, Assembly Members set at 150. ◦ Power of nominations given to the legislature instead of the Governor.
1821	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Established a mechanism for amending the Constitution without a convention. ◦ Abolished the Council of Appointments. ◦ Created a new system of circuit courts. ◦ Established voting qualifications for white and African American men.
1846	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Expanded the types of offices that would be elected by the people. ◦ Restrictions on legislative power and the spending of public dollars. ◦ Mandate the presentation to the voters of question s to whether to call a convention every 20 years.
1867	Accepted and Rejected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Accepted: Extend judges terms in office, reduce case backlog. ◦ Rejected: Increase term limits for senators, restriction of legislative power and increasing the governor’s power.
1894	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Creation of the University of the State of New York (SUNY). ◦ “Forever Wild” state forest preserve. ◦ Merit based civil service. ◦ Established home rule provisions for municipalities. ◦ Set up laws regarding voter registrations, voting machines and bipartisan election boards. ◦ Established guidelines for the selection of convention delegates. ◦ Creation of Blaine amendment - forbidding the use of public dollars for private religious schools.
1915	Rejected (Many proposals passed in ensuing years through legislative initiated amendments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Equal Protection Clause. ◦ Measure to institute a more coordinated government body. ◦ Considered granting women the right to vote but did not include it in final proposal.
1938	Rejected and Accepted 9 ballot questions; 6 passed by voters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Accepted: Safety net for needy, housing, transportation for education, and debt limitations for New York City’s rapid transit. ◦ Accepted: Equal protection clause prohibiting discrimination based on race, color or creed in both private and state action. ◦ In total, 57 amendments were proposed in the form of 9 ballot questions; six ballot questions passed.
1967	Rejected (Packaged all amendments as single ballot question)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Amendments included: improving the language protecting freedom of speech, allowing citizens to bring legal action against the state, allowing the legislature to reduce the voting age, repealing the Blaine Amendment, streamlining the procedure for raising the local tax cap, allowing the legislature to incur debt without voter referendum. ◦ Voters overwhelmingly rejected the proposal.