



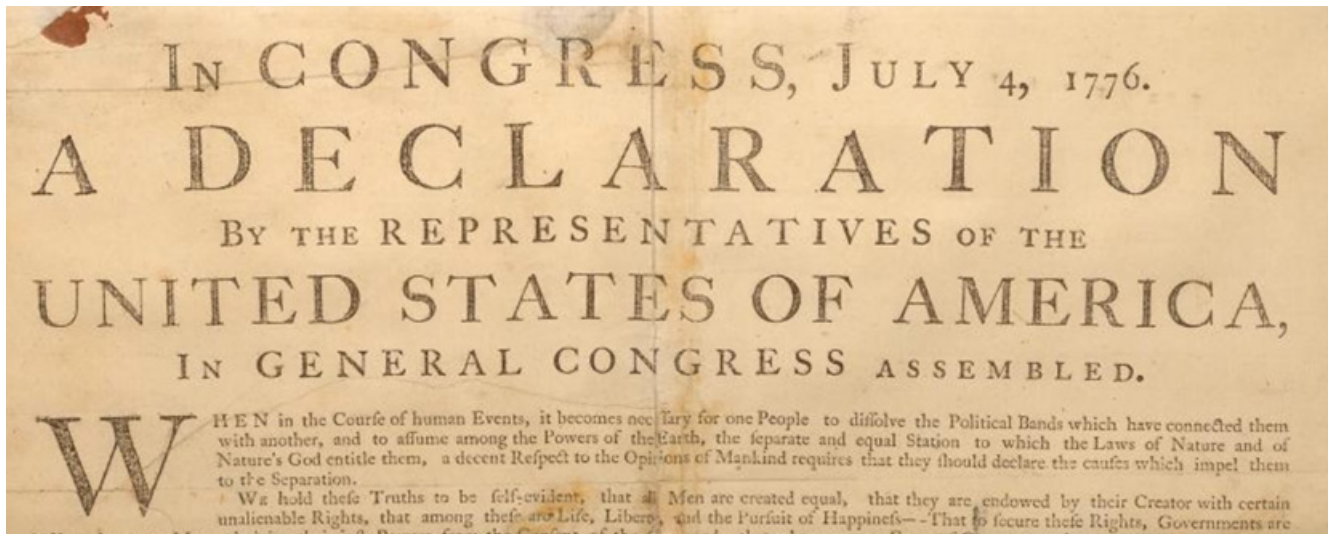
Name _____

Date _____ Class _____

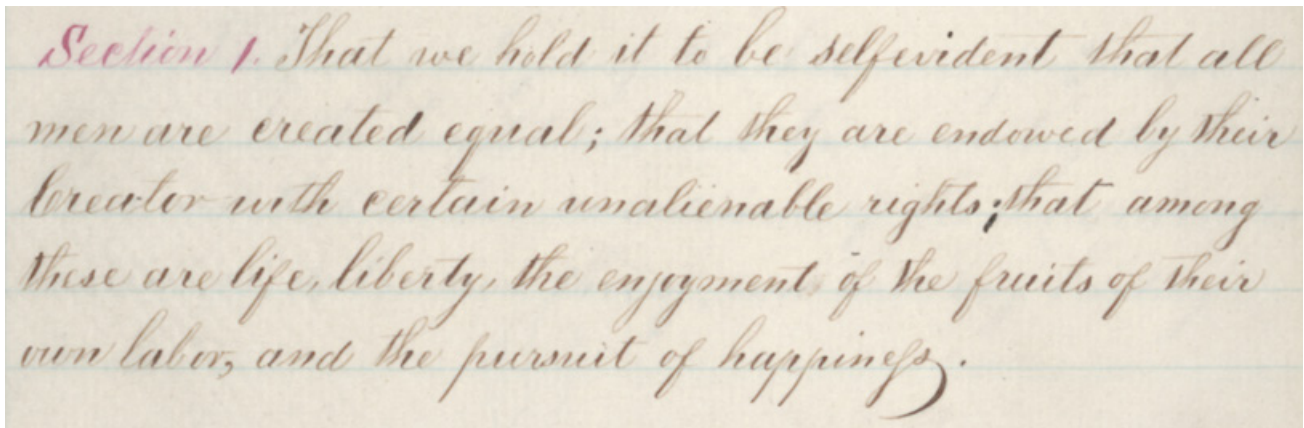


BACKGROUND: 1946 Amendment and Women in the Constitution

Acknowledging Women's Suffrage – Although state statutes changed in 1920, North Carolina's constitution did not reflect the 19th Amendment until amendments in 1946, entitled "The Equality and Rights of Persons." The state legislature did not officially endorse the 19th Amendment until 1971.



Dunlap Broadside (First Printing of the Declaration of Independence), National Archives 301682



Declaration of Rights, North Carolina Constitution, 1868, VC.47.6, State Archives of N.C.

Precedents for the 1946 Amendment, Section 1, included the Declaration of Independence and the Declaration of Rights in the North Carolina Constitution of 1868. The phrase "all men are created equal" promoted racial equality with language that was familiar to most citizens. In 1946, the state legislature changed the language to "all persons are created equal." Although the state followed the national government in accepting women's suffrage, its 1946 amendment made its constitution more inclusive than that of many other states.

Activity: Recitation



1. *Listen* to your teacher or a partner read Section 1 of the 1946 Amendment.
2. *Without looking at the words, write* the section in the space below.
3. Then **memorize** the passage, including the title and 3 phrases.
4. Finally, *recite* it in front of your partner or other classmates.

Quick Fact Check

1. Which North Carolina foundational document did Section 1 of the 1946 Amendment revise?
2. What was the new phrase, replacing the most famous from the Declaration of Independence, approved in 1946 and still valid today?
3. What year did North Carolina officially ratify the amendment granting women the vote?
4. What was the title of the 1946 Amendment?