

## Big Idea Card

### Big Ideas of Lesson 9, Unit 2

- The first ten amendments to the United States Constitution are known as the Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights protects political, personal, and economic rights of individuals, as well as the rights of states.
- The First Amendment protects freedom of expression through five distinct freedoms: religion, speech, press, assembly, and the right to petition the government for redress of grievances. Two separate clauses secure religious freedom: the Free Exercise Clause and the Establishment Clause.
- Other amendments protect individual rights, safeguard rights for the accused, and prohibit cruel and unusual punishment.
- The 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Amendments protect the states and the people by describing the limits of power of the central government. Together, these amendments support the concept of delegated powers.
- The Bill of Rights limits the power of government. It does not apply to actions of private individuals such as your parents.
- The judicial branch determines the scope and limits of the rights in the Bill of Rights.