TEXTUAL EVIDENCE

*Thomas Jefferson’s metaphor of a “wall of separation between church and state” is a constitutionally justified and appropriate guide for interpreting the language and purpose of the First Amendment’s Establishment Clause.*

**Text of the Constitution**

General Welfare Clause: “The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States”

Necessary and Proper Clause: “To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”

1st Amendment: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof”

* James Madison was primary author of the BOR

14th Amendment, Section 1: “No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”

**Arguments supporting wall metaphor:**

**Arguments opposing wall metaphor:**