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Sommario/riassunto	The adoption of the Bill of Rights was the last step in defining the essential elements of American constitutionalism. The process began with the writing of the Constitution, continued through its ratification by the states, and culminated with the adoption of the Bill of Rights. In

1991 the bicentennial of the adoption of the Bill of Rights provided an occasion for examining the origins of this most important statement of individual rights in American history. Published on this anniversary, *The South's Role in the Creation of the Bill of Rights* sheds light on the paradoxical part the South played in the creation of the Bill of Rights.