inalienable • unalienable

Thomas Jefferson used the word *inalienable* in his rough draft, but for the final document John Adams changed the word to *unalienable*. Jefferson had it right to begin with; *inalienable* derives from the French *inaliénable*, and is more common in legal documents. Jefferson's choice is another example of the effect of his immense reading and close familiarity with Enlightenment philosophy; John Locke had written in the *Second Treatise of Government* that obeying civil law "is a judgment that men cannot part with according to the God of Nature. It is the first and foremost of our *inalienable* rights without which we can preserve no other." The inscription on the Jefferson Memorial remains true to Jefferson's original draft.

We hold these buths to in a the hours of the secure there of the secure the secure the secure the secure the secure the secure these courses, of the liberty of the previous of trapportant; that to secure these course, of the liberty of the previous of trapportant; that to secure these course, of the secure these courses, or the secure these courses are the secure these courses, of the secure the secure these courses, or the secure the secu

jounc among the flowers of the earth, the journal declare the causes which imput the with certain unalimable Rights, that an flowers from the consent of the governed, _

WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELFEVIDENT, THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED
EQUAL, THAT THEY ARE ENDOWED BY THEIR
CREATOR WITH CERTAIN INALIENABLE
RIGHTS, AMONG THESE ARE LIFE, LIBERTAND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS, THAT
TO SECURE THESE DIGHTS COVERNMENTS