

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ A NEW NATION GROWS**

**I. Continental Congress creates the Articles of Confederation, 1777**

●Started in 1777 by the Continental Congress to set up a government in which power was divided between the

national government (referred to as Congress) and the state government. This was approved by all states by 1781.

**● Granted majority of the power to the states. ● Created one body, the Congress, to serve as the national government.**

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| **Powers given to the states:** |
| **Powers given to Congress (national):** |
| **Problems this division of power created:** |

●George Washington said, *“We cannot exist long as a nation without having some power which will govern the whole union.”* **What message was he trying to convey?**

**II. Constitutional Convention creates the United States Constitution, 1787**

● Since the Articles of Confederation created a national government that was too weak, a Constitutional Convention was held on May 25, 1787. 55 delegates from each state (except Rhode Island) secretly began a three month meeting to discuss how to make the national government stronger.

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**Powers given to national government:**

 

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| **Congress** | |
| **Senate** | **House of Representatives** |

**Electing the President:**

The Constitution was completed on September 17, 1787, and delegates to the Constitutional Convention sent their new Constitution to the 13 states for approval. Voters in each state elected people to represent them in state conventions where these representatives debated the pros and cons of the Constitution.

**III. Approving the Constitution**

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| **Federalists:**  **Which states immediately adopted the Constitution?** | **Anti-Federalists:**  **Which states rejected the Constitution? Why?** |

● On November 21, 1789, North Carolina became the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ state to approve the Constitution. Rhode Island approved it finally in May, 1790. These states finally approved the Constitution with the addition of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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● Once the Constitution had been accepted, the Continental Congress asked the states to hold elections for Senators, Representatives, and Electors. The electors would vote for the President.

● \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_was elected the first president of the United States on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**IV. The Bill of Rights,1791**

● To gain support of the Anti-Federalists, Federalists had promised to add a Bill of Rights. In 1791, Congress formally added ten amendments, or changes, to protect the basic rights of citizens.

● The **Bill of Rights (the First Ten Amendments) guarantees rights such as:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**V. Federal system of government**

● The seven parts of the Constitution, called articles, explain the way government should be set up and how power should be divided.

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| **Legislative Branch**  **Congress Senate House of Representatives** | **Executive Branch The President** | **Judicial Branch The Supreme Court & other Federal Courts** |
| **Checks and balances:** | | |

