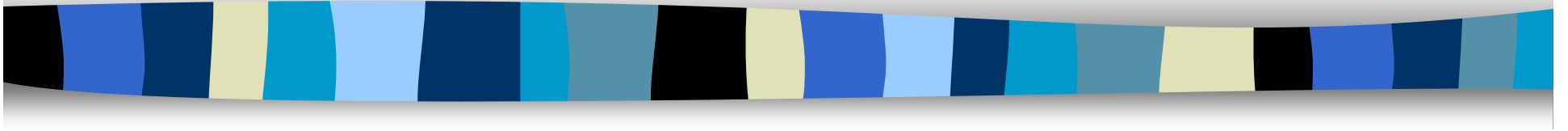


The Articles of Confederation



What they could and couldn't do



Articles of Confederation

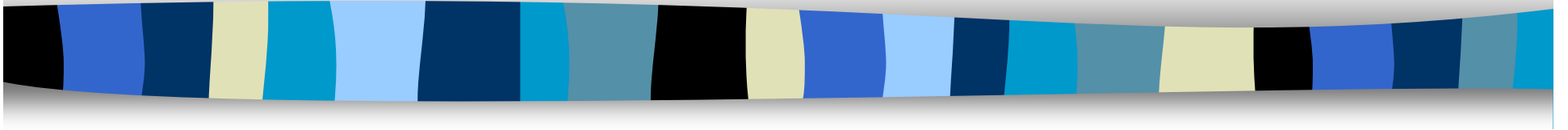
- Continental Congresses temporary
- “firm league of friendship”
- Ratified in 1781
- Unicameral
 - Chosen by state
 - 1 vote per state
 - No executive or judicial branches
 - Congress would choose one member to be presiding officer



Powers under the Articles

- Make War & Peace
- Send/receive ambassadors
- Make treaties
- Borrow money
- Raise military
- Settle disputes among states
- States agreed to obey, treat citizens of other states equally, full faith and credit, surrender fugitives, open travel between states

Making of the Constitution





Problems of the Articles of Confederation

- 1 vote for each state, regardless of size
- No power to tax
- no power to regulate trade
- No executive branch—one chosen to run meeting--little to no power
- no national court
- all state have to agree to amend the Articles
- law needs 9/13
- States still functioned independently--only loose alliance made

Revise the Articles or Start Over?

- VA and MD become “friendlier” with meetings at Mount Vernon to regulate trade--March 1785



So What?

- Meeting went so well, all states were invited to a second meeting in 1786
- 5 out of 13 came
- Tried again in 1787
- 7 out of 13 came
- Congress then invites all states to attend “for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation”
- Meeting becomes known as the Constitutional Convention



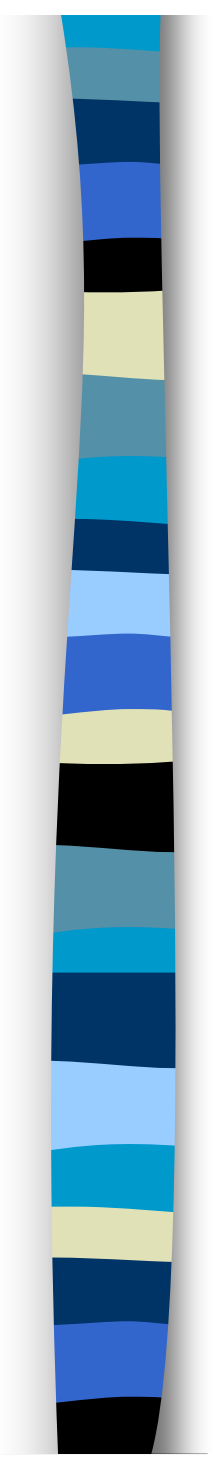
Constitutional Convention

- Attended by 12 of 13 states. –not RI
- 55 delegates--became known as the Framers
 - famous attendees: George Washington, James Madison, Ben Franklin,
 - Not there: Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, Sam Adams
- Met in Philly, May-Sept 1787 *hot*
- met in secret --no press leaks
- Agreed to throw out Articles & start over



Ideas & Challenges

- Virginia Plan (population)
 - 3 branches
 - bicameral legislature
 - House of Reps--# by population or money given to central govt, elected
 - Senate--chosen by the House off list of nominees by the state
 - Congress choose Exec. and Judiciary

- 
- New Jersey Plan (equality of size)
 - unicameral Congress of Confederation
 - each state equal
 - Congress can tax & regulate trade
 - Exec.--more than 1 person chosen by Congress
 - Problem: Should Congress be represented by population or equal among state?



Connecticut Compromise

- Known as the Great Compromise
- Congress --bicameral
 - House of Representatives--population based
 - Senate--states represented equally



How do you count the population?

- Issue of Slaves
- Three-Fifths Compromise
- Commerce and Slave Trade Compromise
 - Congress could regulate trade
 - South worried Congress would be controlled by northern interests
 - couldn't act on slave trade for at least 20 years
 - Congress could not tax exports



6 Basic Principles

- Popular Sovereignty
- Limited Government
- Separation of Powers
- Checks & Balances
- Judicial Review
- Federalism
- **Remember these are not the same as the 6 purposes (found in Preamble)



Ratification

- Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists
- Media Influence
 - Town Meetings
 - Newspaper articles esp. *Federalist Papers*
- Compromise
 - Bill of Rights
- 9 states required
 - NH first
 - New government began on Sept 13, 1788