

Wanted: A Just Right Government

Name: _____

No one could agree on what kind of government this new country needed! This was because...

- States had different economies. For example, some states depended on fishing, while others mostly grew crops.
- States had different sizes. Some states had a lot people and some had less.
- People had different opinions. Some people wanted a central government, while others thought a central government was needed.

Question: why did people fear a central government?
A New Idea

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION	NEW IDEA
Government has <u>1</u> branch:	Government has <u>3</u> branches:
✓ Legislative: <u>makes</u> laws	✓ Legislative: <u>makes</u> laws ✓ Executive: <u>carries out</u> laws ✓ Judicial: <u>interprets</u> laws

BUT WAIT! How many votes should each state get in the legislature?

<u>Virginia Plan</u>	<u>New Jersey Plan</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of votes depends on <u>population</u> • <u>Larger</u> states would have more power • legislative branch has <u>2</u> "chambers" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each state gets <u>1</u> vote • <u>Smaller</u> states would have more power • legislative branch has <u>1</u> "chamber"
<u>The Constitution Solution!</u>	
Divide the legislature into <u>2</u> houses:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senate: Each state gets <u>2</u> votes • House of Representatives: Number of votes depends on <u>population</u> 	

More Constitution Solutions

- The Constitution requires each state to treat citizens of other states the same as it treats its own citizens.
- The Constitution can be changed if 2/3 of the members of Congress and 3/4 of the states agree.
- The Constitution says that the laws passed by Congress are superior to laws passed by the states.

iCIVICS *** Constitution = supreme
law of The land