

## Key Political Events Prior to the American Revolution

YEAR	EVENT
1620	<p><i>The Mayflower Compact</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It was based upon consent of the individuals</li> <li>▪ Forty one out of forty four members signed the document</li> <li>▪ It was to be the prototype for other compacts written in the future</li> </ul>
1639	<p><i>The Fundamental Orders of Connecticut</i> was written and signed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It was the first written constitution of North America</li> </ul>
1641	<p><i>The Massachusetts Body of Liberties</i> was signed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It was a document that established individual rights in the colony</li> </ul>
1682	<p><i>The Pennsylvania Frame of Government was passed</i></p>
1701	<p><i>The Pennsylvania Charter of Privileges</i> was signed into act</p>
1732	<p>The Thirteen Colonies were established</p>
1760's	<p>Began the reign of King George III of England and subsequent colonial unrest</p>
1756-1763	<p>The <i>French and Indian War</i> where the colonials fought alongside the British troops against the French and Native Americans</p>
1764	<p>The <i>Stamp Act</i> was passed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The first direct taxation in the colonies</li> </ul>
1765	<p>The <i>Sugar Act</i> was passed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ "Taxation Without Representation"</li> </ul>
1767	<p>Boycotts begin against British Goods  The <i>Boston Tea Party</i> takes place  New York, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island call for a Colonial Congress to take place in Philadelphia</p>
1774	<p>The <i>First Continental Congress</i> begins on September 5<sup>th</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 12 out of 13 colonies take part, Georgia does not attend</li> <li>▪ There is no talk of independence, just a creation of a petition to the King of England, George III</li> <li>▪ Also proposed was the creation of an organization of spies to report those who kept trading with the British</li> <li>▪ This was the first colonial cooperation between the members</li> </ul>
1775	<p>The <i>Second Continental Congress</i> meets in July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All 13 colonies were represented</li> <li>▪ The goal was to create a "peaceful solution with Britain"</li> <li>▪ <i>Common Sense</i> appears on bookshelves changing national opinion</li> <li>▪ Over 9 million copies were sold!</li> </ul>
1776	<p>April 6<sup>th</sup> saw the vote from the Second Continental Congress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Free Trade in all American ports with all countries except Britain</li> <li>▪ In May the proposal was made for each colony to establish their own state governments</li> <li>▪ In July, Independence was declared</li> </ul>