

Milestones in Early U.S. Political History

YEAR	EVENT
1607	Jamestown established; Virginia Company lands settlers
1620	Mayflower Compact signed
1630	Massachusetts Bay Colony set up
1639	Fundamental orders of Connecticut adopted
1641	Massachusetts Bodies of Liberties adopted
1682	Pennsylvania Frame of Government passed
1701	Pennsylvania Charter of Privileges written
1732	Last of the 13 Colonies (Georgia) established
1756	French and Indian War declared
1765	Stamp Act; Stamp Act Congress meets
1774	First Continental Congress
1775	Second Continental Congress; Revolutionary War begins
1776	Declaration of Independence signed`
1777	Articles of Confederation drafted
1781	Last state (Maryland) signs Articles of Confederation
1783	“Critical period” in U.S. history begins; weak national government until 1789
1786	Shay’s Rebellion
1787	Constitutional Convention
1788	Ratification of Constitution
1791	Ratification of Bill of Rights