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Forming a Union



Textbook Chapter 7 pages 148-161

The Chapter in Brief-

Fill in the blanks to form a summary of Chapter 7 in AMERICA IS.

During the War for Independence, the Continental Congress drew up a plan of govern-
ment known as the This plan was put into effect in
the year congress with representa-
tives from each state. In this legislature, each had one vote. All 13
states had to agree before an could be made to change the framework
of the government. One of the most important accomplishments of this government was pass-
ing the Northwest This law became a model of how territories could
eventually become
The new government encountered problems with other nations. Great Britain failed to
remove soldiers from forts in the and refused to permit
Americans to trade with the Spain refused to allow
Americans to use the port facilities at at the mouth of the Mississippi
River. The new government also encountered financial problems. It did not have the authori-
ty to, and it did not have the authority to control
between states. Many people began to feel that the United States needed a stronger
During the summer of 1787, a convention met in the city of
to revise the plan of government. Some representatives offered the
Plan, which called for more power for larger states. Other representatives offered the
Plan, which called for each state to be represented equally. A compromise
was worked out at the convention in which a congress was established.
A Senate gave each state representation, and a House of Representatives
gave greater representation to states with populations. As part of the

compromise, free states allowed slave states to count slaves as of				
their total population.				
The final document was called the of the United States. It				
was signed by most of the convention delegates and sent to the states to be debated and				
either or A collection of essays called the				
Papers explained the good features of the proposed government plan.				
were those who spoke out against the new plan. In 1788, enough				
states voted in favor of to put the Constitution into effect. Soon after				
the new government began, some of the most important individual rights were outlined in ten				
amendments. Called the, they were approved by the states and added				
to the Constitution.				