

# Abraham Baldwin

Georgia (small state)

## Personal Background

You were born in Connecticut in 1754. Your ambitious father, a blacksmith, went into debt to educate you and his other children. After attending a local village school, you graduated from Yale and became a minister. During the Revolutionary War, you served as a chaplain in the Continental Army. Afterward, you studied law and moved to Georgia, where you became a lawyer. You served in the state assembly and the Continental Congress.

At the Constitutional Convention, you initially favor representation in the Senate based upon property holdings. However, you worry about angering the small states and begin to favor equal representation by state. Other delegates find you likeable and reasonable.

## Views on Issues at the Constitutional Convention

**Issue 1:** You believe that states should be represented in the national legislature based on their property and wealth, but you are open to the argument that all states should have an equal vote. You think that the legislature should have one house.

**Issue 2:** You believe that slaves should be counted equally with other people in determining a state's representation in the national legislature.

**Issue 3:** You believe that the national executive should be selected by special electors.

**Sign the Constitution?** Yes.