

Hugh Williamson

North Carolina (medium state)

Personal Background

You were born in Pennsylvania in 1735 to a large family. Your father was a tailor. A man of many talents, you studied to become a minister, but then taught mathematics, and studied medicine in Europe. Returning to Philadelphia, you practiced medicine and pursued other scientific interests. On a trip to England, you became close friends with Benjamin Franklin, a fellow scientist. You wrote a pamphlet encouraging English support of America's complaints against Britain. Upon returning to America, you eventually settled in North Carolina, becoming a prosperous merchant as well as a doctor. During the Revolutionary War, you were surgeon general of the North Carolina state troops. After the war, you were elected to the state legislature and the Continental Congress.

A hard worker at the Constitutional Convention, you show keen debating skill.

Views on Issues at the Constitutional Convention

Issue 1: You believe that states should be represented in the national legislature based on their population and wealth. You think that the legislature should have one house.

Issue 2: You believe that three fifths of the slaves should be counted only for determining a state's representation in the national legislature.

Issue 3: You believe that the national executive should be chosen by the state legislatures.

Sign the Constitution? Yes.