

Luther Martin

Maryland (medium state)

Personal Background

You were born in New Jersey in 1748. After graduating from college, you moved to Maryland, where you taught school and studied law. An early supporter of independence, you became attorney general of Maryland and often brought legal charges against Loyalists. You fought with the Baltimore Light Dragoons during the Revolutionary War. Later, your law practice became one of the largest and most successful in the country.

At the Constitutional Convention, you are an emotional speaker who consistently defends states' rights and opposes a strong central government. You worry that individuals and states are putting their interests ahead of the common good.

Views on Issues at the Constitutional Convention

Issue 1: You believe that all states must have an equal vote in the national legislature. You think that the legislature should have one house.

Issue 2: You believe that slaves should be counted only for determining the amount of taxes a state pays.

Issue 3: You want the executive to be chosen by electors selected by state legislatures.

Sign the Constitution?

No. You walk out of the convention because you believe that the Constitution gives the national government too much power compared to the states, and because you believe that the system of representation in the national legislature is unfair.