

Rufus King

Massachusetts (large state)

Personal Background

You were born in Massachusetts in 1755, the oldest son of a farmer and merchant. You graduated from Harvard College and served briefly as a general's aide during the Revolutionary War. After the war, you became a lawyer. Politically active, you were a member of the Massachusetts legislature and the Continental Congress, and became known as a brilliant speaker and an opponent of slavery.

At 32, you are one of the youngest delegates. At first, you were not convinced that the Articles of Confederation should be greatly altered. But the debates are changing your mind, and you are becoming a supporter of a strong national government.

Views on Issues at the Constitutional Convention

Issue 1: You believe states should be represented in the national legislature based on how much property their citizens hold. You think that the legislature should have two houses.

Issue 2: You believe slaves should not be counted for determining a state's representation in the national legislature unless they are also counted in determining the state's taxes.

Issue 3: You believe that the national executive should be chosen by a special group of electors selected by the people.

Sign the Constitution? Yes.