

## COMPROMISES FOR THE AP EXAMINATION:

**Virginia Plan:** this is how our three branches came about. Our powers are separated and regulated. The Legis makes, the Exec enforces and the Jud. enforces and interprets.

The plan also makes the House and Senate system (two houses). This also establishes the supremacy over the national government.

This plan states a lot of different aspects and creates a framework of our modern government. (the national government overrules the state ones).

**New Jersey Plan:** limits the powers of the legis branch; this plan also supports the three branches and also the fact that the systems can regulate the other ones.

**The Great Compromise:** The House of Reps is by population and the Senate is a fixed number (2). The South (at least at the time) would have benefitted from the House because of the 3/5s Compromise (because the slaves count as people which increases their power.) Conversely the North would have benefitted from the Senate.

**The 3/5 Compromise:** Out of every 5 slaves only 3 of them count and the other 2/5 are not counted. If one slave was one person that would be a lot of power for the House in the South.

**The Electoral College:** you get as many votes as house reps and senators. (house reps + 2). In states with a lot of votes (swing states) the political parties are equal and they have to push pretty hard. States like OH and PA; states that can make or break someone's presidency.

The votes are cast by electors and they are entrusted with voting for the people (a compromise between "congress elects" and "people elect". Most states are winner-gets-all-electoral college votes, some are split. It is true that they can vote however but that would not be a good idea.

This was set up so that small states don't get crushed by big ones (at least in theory). According to Aidan in our class a vote can be nearly 5x as much.

## THE AMENDMENT PROCESS

The Amendment process is supposed to be a long and thoughtful process. Article 5 states that:

- To create an amendment in the constitution you must get  $\frac{2}{3}$  of both houses to agree AND THEN  $\frac{3}{4}$ s of the state have to ratify it (give it the okay).
- One of them is D.C. statehood, where it's hotly debated. You could in theory lobby for it right now.

## LOBBYING

Lobbying is when you go face to face with one or more political reps for a purpose that benefits some party.

## EVENTUAL RATIFICATION

17 Sep, 1787: The Constitution passes without the Bill of Rights. Those rights are the amendments that came first (the first 10). Those were added 4 years later as amendments and antifederalist efforts. Not everyone was content, however, it still passed.