

## Options in Brief

### Option 1: Unite Around the Constitution

Our nation is on the brink of anarchy. Our current plight has been brought upon us by the Articles of Confederation and the pettiness of the states. If we want to save our nation, we must immediately adopt the Constitution that was drafted in Philadelphia. The national government proposed in the Constitution will have the authority to act on behalf of all of our citizens. Our opponents are trying to frighten the public with groundless fears. But look seriously at what is being proposed. The Constitution puts forth a structure in which our nation will be governed by leaders of wisdom, experience, justice, and virtue. The record of so-called “democracy” in several states has proven the logic of this approach. We learned twelve years ago that we had to join together or perish. Today, we must follow the same path if we are to fulfill the destiny that Divine Providence has laid out for us.

### Option 2: Clearly Define Individual Rights

Beware the Federalist Constitution! The document that is being forced on the country is dangerously flawed. Let us step back and weigh the present situation. There is no crisis that demands an immediate response. We must calmly and deliberately go about revising the Constitution to establish a solid foundation for forming a more perfect union. We must carefully define and limit the authority we grant our government. We must add to the Constitution a bill of rights to safeguard the liberties of U.S. citizens. We should not take anything for granted. Even governments established in the name of liberty have been known to infringe on the liberties of the citizenry. With so much in doubt, we must not act in haste. The noble experiment we are carrying out on these shores demands that we strive for perfection.

### Option 3: Trust in the Common Citizen

Free citizens—defend your rights! The self-appointed aristocracy that gathered in Philadelphia last summer has devised a scheme to deprive us of our liberties. Are we to trade the liberty cap of the free citizen for the yoke of the serf? Never! The Federalists have whipped up fears of chaos to win support for their Constitution. In fact, they are concerned mainly with protecting their wealth and investments. The strong national government suggested by the Philadelphia convention would allow only a handful of wealthy men to participate in the affairs of the republic. Our political system must be grounded in the common citizen—not a privileged elite. The states are the proper defenders of the republican form of government. We must remember always that the only source of legitimate authority is the citizenry. We must not give away the rights we shed blood to gain.