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Ratification > Significant Events and Individuals in South Carolina Politics

## South Carolina Chronology, 1663–1790

1663

24 March Charles II grants Carolina charter to Lords Proprietors.

1669

21 July Lords Proprietors adopt first version of the Fundamental Constitutions of Carolina.

1670

15 March *Carolina*, first ship with European settlers, makes landfall thirty miles from modern Charleston.

1712

South Carolina and North Carolina recognized as separate colonies.

1719

16 December Commons House declares itself a convention of the people and overthrows the proprietary government.

1720

20 September British government commissions royal governor for South Carolina.

1765

7–25 October Christopher Gadsden, John Rutledge, and Thomas Lynch attend Stamp Act Congress in New York.

1769

29 July Act authorizing courts in upcountry signed into law.

## 1774

6–8 July First General Meeting in Charleston with delegates from across the colony; elects delegates to First Continental Congress.

## 1775

11–17 January, 1–22 June First Provincial Congress meets in Charleston.

15 September Lord William Campbell, last royal governor of South Carolina, flees to British warship in Charleston harbor.

1–29 November First session of Second Provincial Congress.

3–4 November John Rutledge asks for and receives advice from Continental Congress on establishing a new government in South Carolina.

## 1776

1 February–26 March Second session of Second Provincial Congress.

26 March Second Provincial Congress adopts new state constitution, dissolves, and reconvenes as General Assembly.

28 June British warships attack Charleston and are repelled.

5 August Declaration of Independence publicly read in Charleston.

## 1778

5 February South Carolina legislature ratifies Articles of Confederation with twenty-one proposed amendments.

5 March President John Rutledge vetoes new state constitution and resigns.

19 March President Rawlins Lowndes signs new state constitution.

25 June Congress considers and rejects South Carolina's twenty-one amendments to the Articles of Confederation.

9 July South Carolina delegates to Congress sign Articles of Confederation.

## 1780

12 May British troops start two and a half year occupation of Charleston.

16 August British victory at Camden.

7 October American victory at Kings Mountain.

## 1781

17 January American victory at Cowpens.

## 1782

- 8 January–  
26 February General Assembly meets at Jacksonborough.
- 26 February General Assembly confiscates Loyalist property.
- 26 February General Assembly adopts Impost of 1781.
- 14 December British troops evacuate Charleston.

## 1783

- Periodic street demonstrations and rioting in Charleston.
- 6 January General Assembly meets in Charleston for first time since 1780.
- 16 March General Assembly repeals adoption of Impost of 1781.
- 17 March Legislature passes act providing for additional confiscations of Loyalist properties.
- 13 August Charleston incorporated as a city.

## 1784

- Periodic street demonstrations and rioting in Charleston.
- 21 March South Carolina grants Congress independent source of revenue and power to regulate trade.

## 1785

- 17 March General Assembly adopts act establishing county courts.
- May Debtors close courts in Camden District to prevent recovery of debts.
- 12 October General Assembly adopts valuation act and paper-money act in response to concerns of debtors.

## 1786

- 11 March South Carolina grants Congress power to share expenses according to population.
- 11 March South Carolina grants Congress temporary power to regulate commerce.
- 22 March General Assembly adopts act to move capital to upcountry.

## 1787

- January South Carolina Court of Common Pleas declares valuation act inoperative.
- 8 March General Assembly appoints delegates to Constitutional Convention.
- 28 March General Assembly passes installment act.
- 2 October U.S. Constitution first printed in South Carolina.

## 1788

- 9 January Gov. Thomas Pinckney sends message asking General Assembly to call a state convention.
- 14 January South Carolina Senate thanks delegates to Constitutional Convention; House of Representatives postpones thanking delegates.
- 16–18 January House of Representatives debates Constitution.
- 17 January Senate adopts resolutions calling for elections on 21–22 February for a convention to convene on 3 March.
- 19 January House of Representatives votes 76–75 to hold convention in Charleston; adopts resolutions to hold elections 11–12 April to a convention to convene on 12 May; accepts, rejects, and modifies Senate resolutions of 17 January calling elections and convention.
- 24 January House of Representatives defeats resolution by Charles Pinckney calling for ratifying convention to serve as state constitutional convention.
- 5 February State House destroyed by fire.
- 6–9 February General Assembly meets at St. Michael's Episcopal Church and City Tavern.
- 7 February House of Representatives adopts resolutions calling for elections on 11–12 April for a convention to meet on 12 May.
- 9 February Senate defeats motion to hold convention in Camden and proposes amendments to House resolutions.
- 11 February General Assembly meets in Exchange Building.

- 12 February House of Representatives concurs in Senate amendments to resolutions calling a state convention.
- 13 February Senate adopts House resolutions calling a state convention.
- 16, 18 February Final approval and signing of resolutions calling a state convention.
- 20–21 February House of Representatives rejects additional debtor relief.
- 29 February Ordinance providing privilege to electors and members of state convention signed.
- 10–12 April Election for delegates to state convention.
- 12–24 May South Carolina Convention meets in Charleston.
- 21 May Convention rejects motion by Thomas Sumter to adjourn to 20 October, 135–89.
- 23 May South Carolina Convention ratifies Constitution, 149–73, with four recommendatory amendments.
- 24 May President Thomas Pinckney of the South Carolina Convention signs Form of Ratification.
- 27 May Federal procession celebrating South Carolina ratification in Charleston.
- 4 November General Assembly adopts acts providing additional debtor relief, paying the expenses of the Convention, and calling elections to the first federal Congress.

## 1790

- 19 January General Assembly ratifies twelve amendments to U.S. Constitution.

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