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Native Americans in Georgia's Ratification

## Governor George Handley to the Governor of South Carolina, 19 February 1788

I have the honor of acquainting Your Excellency that the legislature of this state, in conformity to a resolution of Congress of 26 October 1787 have appointed the Honorable George Mathews, Esquire a commissioner to treat with the Indians in the Southern Department, in conjunction with the Superintendent of Indian Affairs and commissioners to be appointed by the states of North and South Carolina.

As our state is immediately exposed to the hostile attacks of the Creek Indians, our frontiers open to their inroads, and our citizens almost daily murdered, in order to prevent, if possible, the further effusion of blood and hostilities on the part of the Indians, it becomes necessary that the commissioner on the part of your state should attend in Georgia, to act in conjunction with the Superintendent and the other commissioners appointed agreeably to the said resolution of Congress, to proceed on their commission as soon as possible. Your Excellency will please to notify the same to your commissioner.

You will herewith receive a copy of the Journal of the late Convention held in this state on the proposed Federal Constitution.

CITE AS: John P. Kaminski et al., eds., *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*, Vol. III: Delaware, New Jersey, Georgia, and Connecticut (Madison, Wis.: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 1978), 281.