**U.S. Constitutional Convention**

* **The first set of laws created by the U.S. after the Revolution was the “Articles of Confederation” (1777-1787), giving states more power**
* **However, the national government could not tax, and the states had problems with trade and currency (and working together)**
* **Conflicts like Shays’s Rebellion led to the Constitutional Convention in 1787**
* **Delegates like Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, and James Madison SECRETLY created a new set of laws…the U.S. Constitution!**
* **Thanks to Roger Sherman’s Great Compromise (Connecticut), the legislative (lawmaking) branch is two houses!**
* **This compromise combined the Virginia Plan (population-based representation) and New Jersey Plan (each state has just one representative) to form the now-House of Representatives (population) and U.S. Senate (two per state)**
* **The Constitution, created at now-Independence Hall in Philadelphia, was then up for ratification (approval) by the 13 states**

