

New York 3th May 1789

Sir

Pursuant to a concurrent Resolution of the Senate and Assembly I have the Honor to transmit, inclosed, to your Excellency, the Application of our Legislature in Behalf of their Constituents to the Congress on the Subject of Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, And I have to request that you will be pleased to communicate the same to your Legislature

I have the Honor to be with
the highest Respect and Esteem

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient

Servant

His Excellency
The Governour of the State of
Virginia

J. C. Smith

Assembly
Governor Clinton

Letter inclos^d
Reasons of New York Assembly
respect^g Amendments to the
Federal Constitution

Octo 1789

State of New York

In Assembly February 5th 1799.

Resolved, if the Honorable the Senate con-
-cur therein that an Application be made to the
Congress of the United States of America, in the
Name and behalf of the Legislature of this State,
in the words following, to wit.

The People of the State of New York having
ratified the Constitution agreed to on the seventeenth
Day of September, in the year of our Lord one thou-
-sand seven hundred and eighty seven, by the
Convention then Assembled at Philadelphia in
the State of Pennsylvania, as explained by the
said Ratification in the fullest Confidence of ob-
-taining a Revision of the said Constitution, by a
general Convention; and in Confidence that cer-
-tain powers in and by the said Constitution grant-
-ed would not be exercised, until a Convention
should have been called and Convened for propos-
-ing Amendments to the said Constitution. In
Compliance therefore, with the Unanimous sense
of the Convention of this State, who all united in
opinion, that such a Revision was necessary to
recommend the said Constitution to the Appro-
-bation and support of a numerous Body of their
Constituents; and a Majority of the Members of
which conceived several Articles of the Constitution

so exceptionable that nothing but such Confidence
and an invincible Reluctance to Separate from our
Sister States could have prevailed upon a sufficient
number to assent to it, without stipulating for pre-
vious Amendments: And from a Conviction that
the Apprehensions and Discontents which those
Articles occasion cannot be removed or allayed, unless
an Act to revise the said Constitution, be among the
first that shall be passed by the new Congress: We
the Legislature of the State of New York, do
in behalf of our Constituents in the most earnest and
Solemn manner make this Application to the Con-
gress, that a Convention of Deputies from the several
States, be called as early as possible, with full powers
to take the said Constitution into their Consideration,
and to propose such Amendments thereto, as they
shall find best calculated to promote our common
Interests, and secure to ourselves and our latest
Posterity, the great and unalienable Right of
Mankind.

By order of the Assembly
John Lansing, Sen. Speaker
In Senate
February 7th 1789
By Order of the Senate
Pierre Van Cortlandt Pres^d