

Act Authorizing the Election of Delegates, 8 March 1787

AN ACT For appointing deputies from the state of South-Carolina to a convention of the united states of America, proposed to be held in the city of Philadelphia in the month of May. one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven for the purpose of revising the foederal constitution.

WHEREAS the powers at present vested in the united states in congress assembled, by the articles of confederation and perpetual union of the said states, are found by experience greatly inadequate to the weighty purposes they were originally intended to answer, and it is become absolutely necessary to the welfare of the confederate states that other and more ample powers in certain cases should be vested in and exercised by the said united states in congress assembled, and also that the articles of confederation and perpetual union of the united states should be revised, in order to remedy defects, which at their original formation in the time of war and general tumult could not be foreseen nor sufficiently provided against: AND WHEREAS this state is and ever hath been ready and willing to co-operate with the other states in union, in devising and adopting such measures as will most effectually ensure the peace and general welfare of the confederacy:

Be it enacted by the honorable the senate and house of representatives now met and sitting in general assembly, and by the authority of the same, THAT five commissioners be forthwith appointed by joint ballot of the senate and house of representatives, who or any three or more of them, being first duly commissioned by his excellency the governor for the time being, under his hand and the great seal of the state, by virtue of this act. shall be and are hereby authorised as deputies from this state. to meet such deputies or commissioners as may be appointed and authorised by other of the united states, to assemble in convention at the city of Philadelphia in the month of May next after passing this act. or as soon thereafter as may be, and to join with such deputies or commissioners, they being duly authorised and impowered in devising and discussing all such alterations, clauses, articles and provisions as may be thought necessary to render the foederal constitution entirely adequate to the actual situation and future good government of the confederated states, and that the said deputies or commissioners, or a majority of those who shall be present, provided the state be not represented by less than two, do join in reporting such an act to the united states in congress assembled, as when approved and agreed to by them, and duly ratified and confirmed by the several states, will effectually provide for the exigencies of the union.

In the Senate house, the eighth day of March, in the year of Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, and in the eleventh year of the independence of the united states of America.

JOHN LLOYD, President of the Senate.

JOHN JULIUS PRINGLE, Speaker of the house of representatives.

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