

The Great Seal Controversy

The Great Seal Controversy was a constitutional crisis that, although it never led to a civil war, almost did. It was a result of the fact that the seal of the United States was not designed by the Continental Congress, but by the British government. The British government had a long history of using a seal, and the Continental Congress was not sure if it should have one of its own. The British government had a long history of using a seal, and the Continental Congress was not sure if it should have one of its own.

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Part 2: The Seal Controversy

Primary Author: James Madison (drafted the original plan)

Origin: Proposed by Madison at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in the summer of 1787. The original draft of the Constitution was not approved.

Dating: June 17, 1787 (the original draft was not approved until 1788, and the final version was not approved until 1791).