



The Declaration of Independence

The First Continental Congress was called in September, 1774. The delegates agreed that the states would boycott British goods in an effort to force Britain to end taxation without representation. The delegates also agreed to meet in a year's time if Britain did not change its policies. Britain did not.

The Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on May 10, 1775. Delegates voted to organize an army and a navy. They sent a final appeal to King George III, asking for the repeal, or end, of the unfair taxes. King George never replied.

On June, 7, 1776, Congress agreed that colonies were free and independent states, and a committee was formed to write a document stating this fact to Britain. The author of this document was Thomas Jefferson.

