**Massachusetts**

* Economy/Trade: You do not import a lot of goods. You mainly have small farms of livestock and crops were barley, oats, wheat, swine, sheep and cattle.
* State Wealth: $4,500,000.00
* Taxable Land Value: $1,000,000
* Troops Available: All 300 troops are in use trying to put down a rebellion
* Slaves: 0

State Situation: The situation is not good in Massachusetts. You are in debt and have started foreclosing on farmers in debt, taking away their land and even throwing some in jail. After you raised taxes on citizens a rebellion started. The rebellion is getting out of control and you need help! In addition, you’re worried about your land claims in the Northwest Territory--that should be your land and you refuse to give it up!

**Articles of Confederation**

“The Stile of this Confederacy shall be **‘The United States of America’"**

Preamble: Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom, and independence, and every power, jurisdiction, and right, which is not by this Confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress assembled. The said States hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, for their common defense, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other, against all force offered to, or attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or any other pretense whatever.

Article I: Congress will have one house legislature with one vote per state, regardless of population, wealth, or geographic size.

Article 2: In order to pass any laws of significance, 9 out of 13 states must vote for the law.

Article 3: There is no chief executive. All law enforcement is left up to the goodwill of the various states, and each will be expected to carry forward the decisions of this Congress.

Article 4: Congress has NO authority to intervene in interstate disputes or trade as each state is sovereign (free to act) regarding its own interests.

Article 5: Amendment to these Articles requires a unanimous vote of all 13 states.

Article 6: Congress shall have NO power of collecting taxes except by requesting a fair share of funds from each of the several states.

Article 7: Congress may issue currency, but states are not denied the right to print their own currency by the national government.

Article 8: Congress shall have no power to raise an army, except in the case of national invasion. States will be responsible for their own defense, except in cases of extreme emergency.

**Complete the following chart after you have experienced working under the Articles of Confederation.**

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| **Evaluate the Articles of Confederation** |
| **Strengths** | **Weaknesses** |
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**George Washington has called for a meeting in Annapolis in order to discuss making some changes to the Articles. He has asked everyone to bring suggestions for improvements. Write your suggestions in the space below.**

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