

## Student Handout 5: Representation in the Legislative Branch – The Plans Proposed at the Constitutional Convention

The Virginia Plan	The New Jersey Plan
Strong federal government Weak state governments Three branches of government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislative</li> <li>• Judicial</li> <li>• Executive</li> </ul> Bicameral Legislature Representation in legislature based on population	Federal government gains power (tax and regulate trade) Strong state governments Three branches of government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislative</li> <li>• Judicial</li> <li>• Executive</li> </ul> Single body of Congress One state / One vote

### Representation under the Virginia Plan

State	Population	Upper House of Bicameral Congress	Lower House of Bicameral Congress
Georgia	70,835	2	20
New Jersey	179,570	5	50
New York	331,589	10	100

### Representation under the New Jersey Plan

State	Population	Unicameral Congress
Georgia	70,835	2
New Jersey	179,570	2
New York	331,589	2

### Using Data to Answer Questions

1. What states would favor the Virginia Plan? Why?
2. What states would favor the New Jersey Plan? Why?
3. How would you resolve this problem? Explain the reasons for your decision.