## From the Continental Congress to the Iowa Caucus: Everything You Need to Know

### **The Continental Congress**

The Continental Congress was the first governing body of the United States. It was created in 1774 in response to the Intolerable Acts passed by the British Parliament. The Continental Congress met for eight years, during which time it organized the Continental Army, issued the Declaration of Independence, and ratified the Articles of Confederation.

### **The First Continental Congress**

The First Continental Congress was held in Philadelphia from September 5 to October 26, 1774. It was attended by delegates from 12 of the 13 American colonies (Georgia did not send delegates). The Congress adopted a Declaration of Rights and Grievances, which outlined the colonists' complaints against the British government. The Congress also called for a boycott of British goods.



American Government 101: From the Continental Congress to the Iowa Caucus, Everything You Need to Know About US Politics (Adams 101) by Kathleen Sears

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### **The Second Continental Congress**

The Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia from May 10, 1775, to March 1, 1781. It was attended by delegates from all 13 colonies. The Congress organized the Continental Army and appointed George Washington as its commander-in-chief. The Congress also issued the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

#### The Articles of Confederation

The Articles of Confederation was the first constitution of the United States. It was ratified by the states in 1781. The Articles of Confederation created a weak central government and gave most power to the states. The Articles of Confederation were replaced by the Constitution of the United States in 1789.

#### The Iowa Caucus

The lowa Caucus is the first nominating contest in the United States presidential election cycle. It is held in lowa every four years, and it allows voters to express their preference for a presidential candidate. The lowa Caucus is a non-binding event, but it is often seen as a bellwether for the rest of the presidential primary season.

### The History of the Iowa Caucus

The lowa Caucus was first held in 1846 as a way for Democrats to choose their candidate for the upcoming presidential election. The caucus was originally held in a single location, but it was later expanded to multiple

locations throughout the state. The Iowa Caucus has been held every four years since 1846, except for 1872, when it was not held due to a scheduling conflict with the Republican National Convention.

#### The Iowa Caucus Process

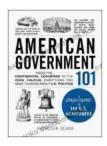
The lowa Caucus is a two-stage process. In the first stage, voters gather in precinct caucuses and discuss their preferred presidential candidates. After the discussion, voters cast a straw poll vote. The candidates who receive the most votes in the straw poll advance to the second stage.

In the second stage, the voters who supported the non-viable candidates in the straw poll vote are allowed to realign with the viable candidates. The candidates who receive the most votes in the realignment vote are declared the winners of the lowa Caucus.

#### The Importance of the Iowa Caucus

The lowa Caucus is an important event in the presidential election cycle. It is the first nominating contest, and it often provides a glimpse of the top contenders for the presidential nomination. The lowa Caucus has also been known to influence the outcome of the presidential election. In 2008, Barack Obama's victory in the lowa Caucus helped him to win the Democratic nomination and eventually the presidency.

The Continental Congress and the Iowa Caucus are two important events in American history. The Continental Congress was the first governing body of the United States, and it played a key role in the American Revolution. The Iowa Caucus is the first nominating contest in the United States presidential election cycle, and it can have a significant impact on the outcome of the election.



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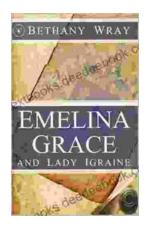
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