

### TEXT SUMMARY

Trouble among the States was a major reason for the adoption of the Constitution. As a result, several parts of the document deal with how the States interact. For example, the Constitution forbids

States to make treaties with one another. However, they may make **interstate compacts**, or agreements in response to shared problems.

The **Full Faith and Credit Clause** of the Constitution says that each State must honor the laws, records, and court decisions of every other State. This clause applies only to civil matters, not criminal matters.

The Constitution's **Privileges and Immunities Clause** says that no State may discriminate against a person who

lives in another State. Thus each State must recognize the right of any American to travel in, do business in, or become a resident of that State. However, a State may draw reasonable distinctions between its own residents and those of other States. For example, a State may require that a person live within its boundaries for a period of time before voting.

The Constitution also establishes **extradition**, the legal process by which a person accused of a crime in one State is returned for trial to that State by the police of another State.

The Constitution's provisions about interstate relations strengthened the hand of the National Government. By doing so, they lessened many of the frictions between the States.

#### THE BIG IDEA

Several provisions of the Constitution deal with the States' relations with one another.

### GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *Interstate Relations*

Interstate Compacts	States may make agreements about solving shared problems
Full Faith and Credit	Each State must honor the laws, records, and court decisions of every other State.
Privileges and Immunities	No State may discriminate against a person who lives in another State.
Extradition	Legal process by which a fugitive from justice in one State is returned to it from another State.

Several key provisions of the Constitution promote cooperation between and among the States.

### REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the reason for extradition?
2. **Chart Skills** What is the purpose of interstate compacts?