



IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776

...We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our

intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

John Hancock
Sam Adams *John Lvingston*
Robt Frazer *Paule*
John Adams *Gran Lewis*
Elbridge Gerry
Josiah Bartlett *Rich Stockton*
Sam^r Huntington
Step Hopkins *John Hart*
Abra Clark *Lewis Morris*
John Morton
Matthew Thornton
Progr Sherman
Wm Waspale *Jas Witherspoon*
William Ellery *Wm Hooper*
Oliver Wolcott *Robt Morris*
Bonf Franklin *M^r Williams*
John Packer

Tras Hopkins *Tho Stone*
Charles Carroll of Carrollton
Th Jefferson *Geo Taylor*
Edward Rutledge *Joseph Hewes*
Jas Smith *Geo Ross*
Geo Clymer *Thos Mifflin*
Bullon Gwinnett
James Wilson *Georad*
Thomas Lynch Junr
Samuel Chase *George Wythe*
Benjamin Rusk *Syngam Hall*
Richard Henry Lee
Arthur Middleton *Ths Nelson*
Casor Rodney *Carter Braxton*
Beny Harrison *Geo Walton*
Francis Lightfoot Lee
Ths Heyward Junr