

SOLVE THE PROBLEM

Which method of representation might better serve the states?

Work with a partner. Examine the population figures in the box below. Discuss the questions with your partner. After your discussion, explain your ideas to the class.

- 1 Assume that in 1790 the small states were those with fewer than 250,000 people.
 - How many total votes would the small states have?
 - How many total votes would the large states have?
 - Explain why the small states favored equal representation in Congress.
- 2 Assume that the number of representatives from each state in Congress is the same and each state has one vote.
 - How many total votes would the small states have?
 - How many total votes would the large states have?
 - Explain why the large states favored proportional representation.
- 3 Assume there is one representative in Congress for every 30,000 people and each representative has one vote.
 - How many total votes would the large states have?
 - How many total votes would the small states have?
 - Explain why the large states favored proportional representation.
- 4 Explain why the disagreement about representation in Congress was so important to the states.

