representatives, shall have authority to make laws in all cases for the good government of the district, not repugnant to the principles and articles in this ordinance established and declared. And all bills having passed by a majority in one house, and by a majority in the council, shall be referred to the governor for his assent; but no bill or legislative act whatsoever, shall be of any force without his assent. The governor shall have power to convene, prorogue and dissolve the general assembly, when in his opinion it shall be expedient.

The governor, judges, legislative council, secretary, and such other officers as Congress shall appoint in the district, shall take an oath or affirmation of fidelity, and of office, the governor before the president of Congress, and all other officers before the governor. As soon as the legislature shall be formed in the district, the council and house, assembled in one room, shall have authority by joint ballot to elect a delegate to Congress, who shall have a seat in Congress, with a right of debating, but not of voting, during this temporary government.

And to extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty, which form the basis wherein these republics, these laws and constitutions are eroded; to fix and establish those principles as the basis of all laws, constitutions and governments, which forever hereafter shall be formed in the said territory; — to provide also for the establishment of states, and permanent government therein, and for their admission to a share in the federal councils on an equal footing with the original states, at as early periods as may be consistent with the general interest. It is hereby ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That the following articles shall be considered as articles of compact between the original states and the people and states in the said territory, and forever remain unalterable, unless by common consent, to wit:

Article the First. No person, demanding himself in a peaceable and orderly manner, shall ever be disturbed in the enjoyment of his mode of worship or religious sentiments in the said territory.

Article the Second. The inhabitants of the said territory shall always be entitled to the benefits of the writ of habeas corpus, and of the trial by jury; of a proportionate representation in the people of the legislature, and of equal protection in the laws; of the common use of inns and publick conveyances; of justice to be administered by persons of their own suit; of their personal liberty to be secure from arbitrary arrest; of the laws to be equally administered, and of protection in their property; and a redress of grievances to be had in the usual modes.

Article the Third. Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. Tithes and religious dues shall be forever exempt from all打死..

Article the Fourth. The said territory, and the states which may be formed therein, shall forever remain a part of the United States of America, subject to the articles of confederation, and to such alterations therein as shall be constitutionally made; and to all the acts and ordinances of the United States in Congress assembled, conformable thereto.

Article the Fifth. There shall be formed in the said territory, not less than three nor more than five states; and the boundaries of the states, as soon as Virginia shall alter her acts of coition and coexistence, as the said act of 1783, shall become fixed and established as follows, to wit: The western states in the said territory, shall be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio, and the Wabash rivers; a direct line drawn from the Wabash and Poit Vincent's due north to the territorial line between the United States and the Mississippi; and by the said territorial line to the lake of the Woods and Mississippi. The middle states shall be bounded by the said direct line, the Wabash from Poit Vincent's to the Ohio, by the Ohio, by a direct line drawn due north from the mouth of the Great Miami to the said territorial line, and by the said territorial line. The eastern states shall be bounded by the said line formed by the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the said territorial line.

Provided, that the said states be so formed as to be equal in number, and as far as practicable, to be equal in size and capacity. Provided also, that the boundaries of these states, shall be subject to be altered, if Congress shall hereafter find it expedient, they shall have authority to form one or two states in that part of the said territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the foregoing line on the north line of Lake Michigan; and whenever any of the said states shall have fifty thousand free inhabitants therein, such state shall be admitted by its delegates into the Congress of the United States, on equal footing with the original states, in all respects whatever; and shall be at liberty to form a permanent constitution and state government: Provided the constitution and government so formed, shall be republican, and in conformity to the principles contained in these articles; and so far as it can be consistent with the general interest of the confederacy, such admission shall be allowed at an earlier period, and when there may be a less number of free inhabitants in the state than fifty thousand.

Article the Sixth. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than as punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; Provided always, that any person escaping from the same, who shall hereafter get into the said territory, shall be subject to be held and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the resolutions of the 13th of April, 1784, relative to the subject of this ordinance, do, and the same hereby repealed and declared null and void.

Done by the UNITED STATES in CONGRESS assembled, the 13th day of July, in the year of our Lord 1787, and of the Sovereignty and independence the 12th.

[Signature]

[Signature]