

Giving Some Powers to the States

The Founding Fathers also decided that certain laws would be decided only by the states and others would be decided only by the federal, or central government. For example, only the federal government can declare war on another country. But states had the right to decide other things, such as the way public schools in each state would be run. The state leaders liked the way the Constitution divided the powers among the three branches of government. So today each state also has its own executive, legislative and judicial branch. Each state has an executive branch leader, called a governor. Each state has its own lawmaking branch and each state has its own system of courts.