



### The Land Ordinance of 1785

Purpose:

To organize western lands for sale to help pay off the United States' [Revolutionary] War debt

# The Land Ordinance of 1785

- Congress would set up western lands as follows:
- ✓ 36 sq. mile townships
- ✓ (1 square mile ='s one 640 acre section)
- ✓ (each 640 acre section would be subdivided into four 160 acre plots
- ✓ 1 section must be set aside for a public school (S)

36	30	24	18	12	6
35	29	23	17	11	5
34	28	22	S	10	4
33	27	21	15	9	3
32	26	20	14	8	2
31	25	19	13	7	1



Purpose:

This Act describes the plan for the admission of new states to the U.S.

The Northwest Territory (present-day Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan & Wisconsin) will be divided into 3 to 5 new states

New states would have same rights & responsibilities as original 13

# NO SLAVERY WOULD BE ALLOWED IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY

 This would be the first time that Congress would put limitations on slavery in the U.S. territories

When 5,000 Adult, White Males establish permanent settlement, the area would become an ORGANIZED TERRITORY

The U.S. Congress would appoint:
A territorial Governor
A territorial Secretary (2<sup>nd</sup> in charge)
Judges

The Voters of the territory would then choose a BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE

When the territorial population reaches 60,000 FREE people, the Territory would then SUBMIT THEIR CONSTITUTION TO CONGRESS & ASK FOR STATEHOOD

The Territorial Constitution MUST INCLUDE provisions for:

≻Freedom of Religion

≻Trial by Jury

➤Free Public Education

Congress can either APPROVE or REJECT admission

### **Today,...Public Land Survey System**

TOWNSHIP LINE									
6	5	4	3	2	ł				
7	8	9	10	В	12	VE			
18	17	16	15	14	13	LINE			
19	20	21	22	23	24	RANGE			
30	29	28	27	26	25	B			
31	32	33	34	35	36				

FIGURE 2.—A regular township.

- This is the current system used by the U.S. Gov't for surveying undeveloped areas
- Went into effect in 1796 with the appointment of a "Surveyor-General" of the U.S.
- Boustrophedonical "ox turn" method