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As a Harvard educated lawyer, Hooper sought to provide justified order according to the law for those he represented. When local North Carolina farmers from the piedmont and mountain regions combatively rose up against unlawful taxation without representation by Great Britain in 1771, William Hooper supported the Royal court system against the demands of the Regulators whom he saw as a lawless mob. Just two years later, the Crown permitted the expiration of the colonial courts and disbarred Hooper because he supported the North Carolina elected Assembly over a bill disallowing arbitrary dictates by the Royal Court.

Although Hooper's beliefs seem to have shifted, he consistently sided with those in support of established law and order and the fair implementation of it. In 1776, Hooper signed the Declaration of Independence especially because King George had arbitrarily "dissolv[ed] Representative Houses repeatedly" (Declaration of Independence), which prevented colonies from passing laws beneficial to the public good. Given Hooper's opposition to lawlessness and government corruption, he would have felt most strongly in favor of those grievances that indicted the King for refusing to agree to laws needed for the public good and laws needed to create a judiciary system.

North Carolina, like South Carolina, had many successful eastern colonists who remained loyal to the British Crown while others fought with the Patriots against the rule of the Crown. Those who sided with Hooper and the Revolutionary cause agreed that the colonies deserved freedom from an arbitrary foreign power that demands taxes while preventing enactment of laws for the common good. The Regulators had shared this in their demands to Governor Tryon and were willing to fight the corrupt Royal tax collectors in their counties as well as take up arms against the Governor's troops. Although short of demanding Independence, in 1775, the Mecklenburg Resolves and Halifax Resolves were issued by North Carolina Patriots to declare that the King's laws did not govern the people of North Carolina until Parliament were to "resign its unjust and arbitrary Pretentions... with respect to America" (Mecklenburg Resolves). The colony and Crown could reconcile once just and fair laws were restored; a sentiment that syncs with Hooper's justification for declaring independence a year later.

As the chair of my high school's elected Honor Council last year, I learned the value of following written Bylaws that guided us with the assent of the headmaster and board of governors. I did not appreciate this integral aspect of our system until a joint honor trial brought me in direct contact with our sister school's Honor System. While our two schools were single-sex and independent, we held joint classes, and our trial days before graduation involved one senior from each school, both admittedly guilty. Each respective administration handled their own student; however, the experience exposed stark differences in how each representative Honor Council interacted with their governing administration. Under the assent of our headmaster, our Bylaws guided us to handle the trial irrespective of the school calendar. Without any established bylaws, our sister school's Honor Council was left powerless under their headmaster, who had arbitrarily decided that the council would not be allowed to handle their student's case. Despite representatives' protests, their headmaster "refused [her] Assent to Laws" which were notably for fairness and "public good" (Declaration of Independence). Upon hearing of this discrepancy from the male offender, my classmates were expectedly affronted as if colonists hearing of a British foreigner's pardon under King George. This incident taught me the values William Hooper learned while serving in North Carolina. Written law, self-governance, and checking ultimate power are all necessary components to successful interactions between the public and their government. Similar to Hooper, I hope to be able to bravely recognize when these values are challenged and accordingly advocate for their continuance.