



South Carolina Nullification Crisis

A Timeline by Tom Richey



1828	May	Tariff of Abominations passed by Congress and signed into law by President John Quincy Adams. This protective tariff had the highest rates of any tariff in U.S. history.	
	November	Andrew Jackson elected President with John C. Calhoun as his running mate. Jackson's supporters in the North supported protective tariffs but his Southern supporters opposed them.	
	December	Calhoun anonymously authors the South Carolina Exposition [and Protest] , proposing nullification as a means to resist the Tariff of 1828. His authorship was an open secret.	
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1830	January 19-27	Hayne-Webster Debate in the U.S. Senate over nullification and whether the Constitution is a compact between the states or a national union of the American people.	
	April 13	Jackson and Calhoun exchange toasts at a dinner celebrating Thomas Jefferson's Birthday.	
1831	January 1	William Lloyd Garrison publishes the first issue of <i>The Liberator</i> , an abolitionist newspaper, adding another element to an already tense situation between the North and the South.	
	July 26	Calhoun publishes the Fort Hill Address , entering publicly into the debate over nullification for the first time.	
1832	July 14	Congress passes the Tariff of 1832 , which lowered protective rates – but not enough to appease the Nullifiers.	
	November	Andrew Jackson wins re-election with Martin Van Buren as his running mate.	
	November 24	South Carolina convenes a convention, which approves an Ordinance of Nullification .	
	December 10	Jackson issues his Proclamation Regarding Nullification , clearly stating his opposition to nullification.	
	December 28	John C. Calhoun, already a lame duck, resigns the Vice Presidency to represent South Carolina in the U.S. Senate.	
1833	March 2	Congress passes the Force Bill , authorizing Jackson to use military force to collect the tariff.	Congress simultaneously passes the Compromise Tariff of 1833 , which gradually lowered protective rates over the following decade.
	March 11	The South Carolina convention re-convenes to accept the Compromise Tariff (and nullify the Force Bill).	