

S.B. No. 432 AN ACT CONCERNING AN AGREEMENT AMONG THE STATES TO  
ELECT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY NATIONAL POPULAR  
VOTE

My name is Abigail Johnson and I am a current student at Yale University and resident of New Haven, CT. As a student in Connecticut and as a voter in the state, I write to urge you to place the National Popular Interstate Compact on your docket for the upcoming legislative term. Nationally, this bill would allow states to streamline the voting system so that electoral votes are allocated to the candidate who wins the national popular vote. This bill would not only be beneficial on a national level, but would also be highly important at the Connecticut state level. Under the current system, presidential candidates often bypass Connecticut during their campaigns in favor of traveling to swing states. For example, during the 2012 election season, Connecticut received less than five visits from the different campaigns, but New Hampshire and Iowa received upwards of forty visits each. This implies that Connecticut and thus Connecticut voters do not receive as much overt attention from candidates. This lack of attention could result in Connecticut voters feeling that their votes are not as important as those from other states.

As a volunteer with a campaign this past summer, I heard similar concerns from Connecticut voters. Voters would often tell me that they were skeptical that their one vote would make a difference at the local level. If people feel this way about local elections, there must also be some skepticism at the state level, so I urge you to place the National Popular Interstate Compact on the docket in order to ensure that all Connecticut voters feel that they have a voice in national elections. New Jersey, Massachusetts, California and Illinois are among the states that have passed the Compact and I urge you to place the bill on the upcoming docket so that Connecticut can do the same.

Sincerely,  
Abigail Johnson  
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