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I am testifying in support of the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact – HB 5434.

We have had two presidential elections within sixteen years where the popular vote did not agree with the Electoral College results. This circumstance has disenfranchised voters and runs the risk of harming our democratic republic with erosion of both public trust and participation in the democratic process.

I understand that the Electoral College was designed to give less populous rural areas a voice; however, it now serves to hold the voice of the many, hostage, to the will of the few.

The Senate refused to hold a vote on a Supreme Court nominee by declaring that they should wait a year for the presidential election to “hear the will of the people.” The popular vote represents the will of the people, not the construct that is the Electoral College. If our democratic process is to retain the trust of the people, it must actually represent the will of those people.

I hope you will support the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, HB 5434. It is the only way that our citizens can know that their vote really matters.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan DeSilver