

February 20, 2017

To the CT General Assembly

Dear Assembly Persons,

This is my written testimony for bills H.B. 5434 and/or H.B. 5736; in either case, the bill concerning whether Connecticut should adopt the Interstate Compact to elect the President of The United States by national popular vote and join the other states that have already adopted the compact.

As an American citizen and a voter, I have always believed in the power of democracy to be a government by the people, for the people. I believe in the efficacy of one person, one vote. I believe in citizen participation.

Unfortunately, as our electoral rules currently dictate, we do not have a true democracy. A person can become President simply by winning certain key states which hold the largest number of electoral votes, thus discounting millions of other voters in other states.

We now, in my lifetime, have two elected Presidents who did not win the popular vote. For the almost three million people who did not vote for our current President, the electoral college is an unfair and unjust system. The current President is not my President. Millions of other people feel the same way. How can an elected official, who did not actually win the election, govern effectively? And how can we as citizens trust an election that has betrayed our votes?

The current system undermines the belief that one person can make a difference and hurts our democracy. I urge you to support these bills and take our country one step closer to abolishing the electoral college.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
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