

The National Popular Vote Compact, **H.B. 5434** is coming up shortly before Connecticut's Government Administration and Elections Committee. When States with enough popular votes sign onto this compact, it becomes effective nation-wide; henceforth the winner of the direct National Popular Vote in a presidential election becomes the winner of the Electoral vote AND OF THE PRESIDENCY. A presidential candidate will be voted in (or out) by ALL the people having had equal voice in the election process.

Also, very importantly, this action is within the walls of the Constitution, and would not necessitate an amendment.

HB5434 has bi-partisan support on your committee. Bipartisan authorization is essential because this bill will result in an even distribution of the voices from both Republican can and Democrats and doesn't favor one party or another.

This Compact has already been adopted by 10 states and the District of Columbia. Governor Malloy has aligned with leaders from both the Democratic and Republican Parties in support of the National Popular Vote Bill.

The people of Connecticut deserve an equal vote in deciding who assumes the presidency in a national election. Under the current process, a handful of battleground states get to elect the country's president and Connecticut voters are effectively reduced to mere spectators in the national process. Even post-election, it is those same battleground states which receive an undue higher proportion, (about 7 %), of presidentially controlled or influenced grants. Candidates know where their bread is buttered and which states are not worth their time or their "ear." Connecticut needs to get into the game!

Currently, using the state-by- state winner-takes-all practice, the people of Connecticut and the rest of the predictably "red" AND "blue" states are, in essence, disenfranchised or silenced. In Connecticut, (a traditionally blue state), the votes and views of our Republican voters have failed to penetrate on a national scale. Why shouldn't every voice of the Connecticut's voters be of less value than those in a mere handful of states? Let "one person/one vote" mean something again!!

Using the National Popular Vote results in elections would directly represent the views of our Connecticut voters across the political spectrum. Connecticut legislators on both sides of the aisle need to "Put Connecticut First" and support the National Popular Vote Compact, HB 5434.

Respectfully submitted,

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