

February 21, 2017

Karen Tracy

271 Castle Drive

Stratford, CT 06614

Re: HB5434

Dear Distinguished Members of the Joint Committee on Government Administration and Elections,

I am writing to convey my support for HB5434, the National Popular Vote Compact (NPVC) that awards the presidency to the candidate that receives the most votes nationwide. Any election selecting the President of the United States should reflect the majority will of the people. Again as in 2000 the country is now faced with a President who does not have the support of the majority of the electorate.

There has been a healthy and lively debate since November on the merits of the Electoral College. Many arguments in favor for the current system center around the notion that we shouldn't challenge the wisdom of the Founding Father's intentions. However, the Constitution Article II, Section 1 doesn't specifically advocate our current system. It's left to each state to decide how the electoral votes are cast.

More compelling, the Connecticut electorate is completely ignored during any presidential cycle. Connecticut as part of the NPVC would ensure that candidates spend some effort campaigning for Connecticut's electoral votes. The NPVC would also minimize the swing state effect whereby all campaigning is geared towards a tiny slice of the electorate.

It's an elegant way to partner with other states in the union without having to abolish the Electoral College.

Looking forward to your position on this bill.

Sincerely

Karen Tracy