

Dear Senator Flexer, Senator McLachlan, Representative Fox, and Distinguished Members of the GAE Committee,

I am submitting this testimony in support of HB 5421, the bill to have Connecticut join the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact. The Compact is a nonpartisan solution to make everyone's vote for president matter—regardless of whether they live in blue, red or battleground states.

As a Connecticut resident, I went to college out of state in New Hampshire. During election season while I was a student, I was afforded the opportunity to hear from many candidates on both sides of the aisle because national candidates put a premium on the citizens of battleground states. This made me a better informed and more engaged voter. When I graduated and moved back to Connecticut, it was disappointing to realize that that level of access did not occur here. Candidates do travel to Connecticut, but primarily as a means of fundraising or singular, large rallies towards the end of the campaign. Connecticut voters are missing out on the experience of seeing candidates in person and making that connection. Candidates are missing out because of a structure that puts a premium on a select few battleground states.

I urge you to support H.B. 5421, the proposal to elect the President by the national popular vote in all 50 states. That way CT voters would matter.

Sincerely,

Kate Rozen

Woodbridge