

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. I truly believe that the Compact is a nonpartisan solution to make everyone's vote matter regardless of the state they live in, whether it is a red, blue or battleground one.

I urge you to support HB 5421. If you do, I think you will find that your constituents will be happy you did. In the past year I have gone from being a consistent yet unengaged voter to being a person with a passion for talking to my neighbors about local issues and CT politics. I have knocked doors and phone banked in 3 special elections as well as in the municipals and whenever I explain this Compact and ask for my fellow citizens' opinions on it I find them overwhelmingly in support of it. My anecdotal evidence may not be scientific, but it supports the Feb. 2018 polling by Making Every Vote Count. This polling showed that electing the president by the national popular vote has majority support of CT voters across party lines. You have read these numbers, but they bear repeating. Fully 78%, including 62% of Republicans, 76% of Unaffiliated and 92% of Democrats agree that the candidate who wins the most votes nationwide should become president.

In the months before elections, I want each state to be in play and to have attention from the candidates, not just the battleground states. I want to know that my vote matters as much as a vote in PA, OH or FL. I understand that the National Popular Vote preserves the electoral college and is constitutional.

As an Early Childhood Educator for over 30 years, I have tried to teach the young children in my care that they have a voice in their experience in my classroom. As young as they are, they grasp the concept of basic democracy and would be outraged if I did not give each of them equal say. If we vote on an issue, each child has one equal vote. The National Popular Vote seems to uphold the most basic tenant of our democracy in the same way – by making one person, one vote a reality.

Please support HB5421.

In a democracy every vote should matter equally.

The president should be the candidate who gets the most votes.

Thank you for your service and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Bromley

Milford, CT