

March 18, 2018

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

My name is Mary Doherty and I am a constituent of CT House District 69 and CT Senate District 32. I am writing testimony in strong support of HD 5421: An Act Adopting the Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote. The following are my reasons for supporting the National Popular Vote (NPV).

- The NPV will encourage presidential candidates of all parties to spend time in CT and listen to our priorities and concerns about our state and country. The president once elected will dedicate financial aid and resources to CT as the votes in CT will matter equally with the votes in all other 49 states.
- The NPV is Constitutional. Article II allows states to decide how to vote their electors: “Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors.”
- The NPV has widespread, bipartisan support. The League of Women Voters endorsed the NPV Compact in 2010 describing it as “one acceptable way to achieve the goal of the direct popular vote for the election of the president”. According to a 2009 Public Polling Survey of CT Voters, 75% of Democrats and 67% of Republicans believed the popular vote winner in all 50 States should be elected president. Make Every Vote Count conducted a nationwide survey in 2017 and determined that 70% of U.S. adults favored a national popular vote.
- Americans are losing faith in our elections and the important democratic principle that each person’s vote matters. We elect our municipal officials by popular vote. We elect our CT Assembly representatives and senators by popular vote. We elect our governor and Constitutional officers by popular vote. We elect our US senators and representatives by popular vote. Why on earth do we continue to use the archaic, obsolete, and anti-democratic electoral college to elect our president?
- It is time to elect the President of the United States of America by popular vote. It is time to pass the NPVIC!

Sincerely,

Mary Doherty
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Southbury, CT

