

March 15, 2018

Dear Senator Flexor, Senator McLachlan, Representative Fox, and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

I support CT joining the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact - "H.B. 5421 – AN ACT ADOPTING THE INTERSTATE COMPACT TO ELECT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES BY NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE. To enter Connecticut into the Agreement Among the States to Elect the President by National Popular Vote, thereby committing the state's votes in the Electoral College to the presidential candidate who wins the popular vote nationally, regardless of whether such presidential candidate wins the popular vote within the state."

The current system of electing the President stems from state laws that award all of a state's electoral votes to the candidate receiving the most popular votes in each separate state. Because of these state winner-take-all statutes, presidential candidates have no reason to pay attention to the issues of concern to voters in states where the statewide outcome is a foregone conclusion. In 2012, 38 states were ignored. Worse, winner-take-all leads to undemocratic outcomes where the winner of the popular vote loses the election, as has happened twice in the past five elections. It would have happened to Bush in 2004 if just 120,000 more voters in Ohio had voted for Kerry.

It's time to make every vote matter. Please vote yes on H.B. 5421. Thank you for your time and attention.

Respectfully,

Teresa LaPenta-Duffek
Newington, CT