

My name is Elizabeth Litt; I am from Newtown, Connecticut. I am submitting testimony in support of HB5421, the bill to have Connecticut join the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact. This is a nonpartisan solution to ensure that everyone's vote for president matters, regardless of whether they live in blue, red or battleground states.

Presidential candidates rarely campaign in Connecticut, because they assume the state will vote democratic. In fact, the 12 "battleground states" host almost all of the campaign events, while the other 38 states are ignored. Battleground states also receive the benefit of more presidentially controlled grants and disaster declarations. I want every state to be equally important in presidential campaigns, and to have equal access to federal dollars.

I've heard many voters say they don't bother to vote in presidential elections because they know their vote won't affect the outcome of the election. Under the current system, voters in non battleground states feel disenfranchised. I believe strongly in the importance of voting, but I want to know that my vote is as significant as the vote of any other U.S. citizen, no matter where they live.

Every other elected official is elected by popular vote, and the majority of voters believe the president should also be elected by popular vote. A 2009 Public Policy Polling survey of CT voters, and a 2017 nationwide survey by Make Every Vote Count, found that most voters of both political parties support having the president be the person who gets the most popular votes. The League of Women Voters has endorsed

The Compact has already received bipartisan support in many states; there are already 10 states and the District of Columbia where the Compact has been passed by both houses, so the Compact is halfway to the 270 electoral votes required for it to come into effect. It has been considered by the CT General Assembly 6 times in the past decade. It's time now to pass this legislation. I want my vote to count, and I want my state to count!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Litt

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