

To members of the GAE Committee:

I am writing in SUPPORT of H.B. 5421, An Act Adopting The Interstate Compact To Elect The President By National Popular Vote. The president is meant to be the ultimate representative of the people of the United States, more so than the Senators or Representatives who are elected to serve their individual state or district. With the separate powers outlined in our constitution, it is the president that is responsible for implementing the will of the people and serve the interest of the entire nation. This is not possible if the presidential election is determined by a minority of "swing" states and the person elected feels no responsibility to states whose electoral votes were assigned to another candidate.

The failures of the current system have been exposed five times in our history : 1824,1876,1888,2000 & 2016. Each time the will of the electorate was not served. There is no reason not to fix this. There is also no constitution reason this cannot be done. The U.S. Constitution (Article II, Section 1) gives the states exclusive control over awarding their electoral votes: "Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors....". This legislation would also not put CT out on their own, as the compact states it will not go into effect until US states with enough electoral votes to determine the president opt in to the compact. This would ensure that the will of the people is served when electing our highest office.

This would be a similar change to when our Constitution was amended to elect our Senators by popular vote in the states, instead of via appointment.

Please approve H.B. 5421 so we can move toward "A More Perfect Union" and uphold the ideal of "One Person, One Vote"

Sincerely,  
Ben Martin