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Government Administration and Elections Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

RE: Support for H.B. 5421

Dear Committee Members:

I'm writing today in support of House Bill 5421, an act which would 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 that wins the popular vote nationally, regardless of whether such presidential candidate wins the popular vote within the state.

The Electoral College is an outdated system for electing the President. In all other elections, be they Congressional, state, or local, the popular vote is utilized. It works just fine in these elections, as each vote actually counts. We never question the outcome of these popular vote elections, as they are clearly decided by the voters, with the "one person, one vote" system working as intended. The same cannot be said for the Electoral College system, which has resulted in presidential elections being decided by the Supreme Court in recent history.

The vote of each American citizen should count equally, regardless of the type of election in which they are participating. Why do we have two different systems of counting votes? Using a system that could disenfranchise the votes of particular state residents is unfair. Furthermore, how do we inspire voting and activism if we use a system where we know their votes will not count, due to the Electoral College system? If people think their voices don't matter, I would guess that those people would not be inspired to act or vote. This is the antithesis of democracy.

I believe that the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact is the most practical way to use the "one person, one vote" principle in practice, and I urge you to consider the legislation in fairness to each voter, regardless of the type of election.

Sincerely,



Eric Paulson