

Government, Administration, and Elections Committee  
Public Hearing  
Monday, March 19  
Subject: Testimony HB 5421

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

My name is Mary Rydingsward.

I am testifying in support of Connecticut joining the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, HB 5421. I stand as an advocate for democracy, having served as Registrar of Voters for the City of Bristol and currently serving as the advocacy chair of the League of Women Voters – New Britain Area.

The national popular vote interstate compact will improve democracy in our country by equalizing the power of all voters when electing President of the United States. I believe the president should be elected the same way you are elected, by the populous – not by an elite group that protects the populous from an ill-informed decision, as was the concern of old. Today the populous has the means to be informed instantaneously. Additionally, the gerrymandering exhibited by many states throughout our nation has further eroded any remaining validity of the electoral college.

Today, politics is primarily controlled by moneyed-interests. One piece of democracy still-standing is the power of the vote. This power is circumvented via the electoral college. I urge you, in the name of our Democratic Republic, in the name of democracy itself, that you vote in favor of HB 5421 to allow the citizens of the United States to vote for it's President.

Sincerely,

Mary Rydingsward, MBA

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