

Connecticut should join the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact so that the presidential election will be based on the democratic principle of “one person/one vote” and the winner will be the candidate who gets the most votes nationwide.

The Electoral College is undemocratic because states cast their allotted number of Electoral College votes on a “winner takes all” basis. The votes for the candidate who got less than 50% of the votes in a state are disregarded. In the 2016 presidential election, 41.2% of Connecticut’s voters cast their votes for Donald Trump, but Connecticut cast zero votes for Trump in the Electoral College.

In 2016, Hillary Clinton got four million more votes nationwide than Trump did, but Trump won the election in the Electoral College. The 2016 election was the fifth presidential election since 1824 that the candidate who got the most votes nationwide lost the election. It will happen again unless the 12th amendment is repealed or the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact is implemented.

Every state that signs the Compact pledges to cast all of its Electoral College votes for the candidate who wins the most votes nationwide. Once enough states join the Compact to constitute the majority of Electoral College votes, the presidential candidate who actually wins the nationwide election will win the election in the Electoral College. Presidential elections will become fair elections that are based on the democratic principle of “one person/one vote.”

Please pass H.B. 5421.

M. Cynara Stites  
Storrs Mansfield, CT