

Please pass HB 5434 to give each citizen's vote equal weight in electing candidates for any office. CT elects its candidates by popular vote. Our federal government needs to follow suit. The National Popular Vote Compact would achieve the goal of the direct popular vote for election of the president until the abolition of the Electoral College is accomplished. CT is ignored by candidates on the federal level because we are Blue. Let them work for our vote and give us the information straight from their mouths that to we need to decide our vote.

This bill does not usurp the Constitution. Article II gives exclusive power to the states to decide how to vote their electors: "Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors." It wasn't until the 1820s that states began adopting the winner-take-all method of voting electors that renders voters in spectator states like CT irrelevant.

The push for a national popular vote is not a reaction to the 2016 election. It has been considered by the CT General Assembly six times over the past decade. It was voted out of the GAE Committee on bipartisan votes until 2017, it passed the House in 2009. The time for a National Popular is long overdue. Please help to make it happen now.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Vizoyan