

Written Testimony in Opposition to HB 3077

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I do not profess to be a scholar of the Constitution of the United States, but I have a strong belief that the Constitution is an inspired document and it is the only reason we are a free nation today.

I strongly oppose HB 3077 because of the intent to change the Constitution.

While at first glance, it may seem like a president should be elected by popular vote rather than by designated electors, there is a reason why the Founding Fathers determined this important election should be conducted in this manner. The reason there is confusion, is because “majority rules” is a very simple concept. But the concept that we are a “republic”, is more difficult to explain and understand. It takes some time and study. Please do your homework before voting for this bill.

I would ask members of the committee and interested parties to read the Federalist Papers, starting with Number 10 and Number 68.

http://thomas.loc.gov/home/histdox/fed_68.html

http://thomas.loc.gov/home/histdox/fed_10.html

The beauty of the Constitution is that checks and balances are included to protect us from our human frailties. Changes to this document will result in problems that are far more troublesome than the imperfections in the system we have now.

I trust the wisdom of the men who worked laboriously to construct this great document. They built in important safeguards to prevent power from accumulating in the Federal Government.

I will close with a statement by James Madison:

Democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths.

A republic, by which I mean a government in which the scheme of representation takes place, opens a different prospect, and promises the cure for which we are seeking. (Federalist Papers, No. 10)