

Oregon Citizens Lobby

A growing statewide collaborative effort by citizens to promote legislative accountability.

Oregon Citizens Lobby opposes HB 3077 for the following reasons.

This bill incorrectly and fundamentally changes how Oregon allocates its electoral college votes for the presidential election. Instead of being based on the will of Oregon's voters, it will be based on the Secretary of State's opinion of who won the national popular vote for president.

Personal Choice

This bill, if it passes, will guarantee that Oregon's electoral college votes go not to the presidential candidate elected by the people of Oregon, but of the winner of the national popular vote. This means that if every single Oregon voter rejects a particular candidate, but that candidate wins 50% plus one vote nationally, then that person automatically wins Oregon. Your personal choice for president does not matter in the slightest.

Limited Government

First, the bill empowers the Oregon Secretary of State to determine who "won" the presidential election based on the national popular vote. In the past, there has been solid evidence of election fraud all over the nation, yet the SoS will have the power to determine the national winner without even the possibility of reviewing election integrity issues outside of Oregon. Secondly, the SoS is empowered to disregard the will of Oregon voters in their vote for president and give Oregon's electoral college vote to the candidate the SoS determines to have won the popular vote nationally.

Local Control

Oregon's voters have essentially no control over the presidential election if this bill passes because all future elections for president in Oregon will be decided by the interpretation of ONE individual. The claim is that the vote will be determined by the will of the whole country, which ought to automatically garner a -2 score here in Local Control, but it's really much worse than that.

Free Markets

Already, we know that politicians pander to the most densely populated areas (which generally aren't in Oregon) for their votes. Oregon only comes into play when it's going to be close and the politicians need those extra votes. We also know that politicians pander to businesses, organizations, and the various markets in general which wield tremendous power to amplify or counter their message. Simply put, this completely alters that landscape, and not in a good way. Those businesses that will be favored are those which serve states with the largest populations. More so than even today, the politicians will be picking winners and losers in the markets. This is bad if Oregon were a state where some businesses would be winners. But it's even worse for Oregon's free market economy since our state's significance will fall from mostly irrelevant to completely irrelevant.

