

House Committee on Rules
April 15, 2015

Chair Representative Hoyle, and Members of the Committee,

My testimony is in opposition to HB 3475. I am shocked that so many have co-sponsored HB 3475, the National Popular Vote bill. It is an indication that no real research was done to determine the best interest for Oregon.

If you do any kind of math, it quickly becomes obvious why a National Popular Vote isn't in the best interest for Oregon. Oregon enjoys a 30.9% per capital electoral representation HIGHER THAN voters in New York in the Electoral College system. That would be taken away with a popular vote. If you have not done this calculation, then you are being misled by thinking Oregon would be better represented by a popular vote. The Electoral College does not guarantee a majority vote election because it weights small states (like Oregon) so we have a say and aren't just dictated to by larger states. So, the Electoral College has a guarantee much more important for Oregon. It guarantees that the elected president that will govern the country is elected by a vote sufficiently distributed across the country preventing an election being determined by a few states with the largest metropolitan areas.

If you don't understand the distribution of the Electoral College votes and why it's our constitutional right for every state to be represented in the presidential election, then please excuse yourself from voting on this bill.

It should further disturb you that Bloomberg has put so much of his own money into a national popular vote because he knows the power he will have for his state with a national popular vote.

My question to you: what state are you representing with your vote on this bill? New York or OREGON? And how does that coincide with your Oath to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Oregon?

Donna Bleiler