

To the House Rules Committee,

I just learned that your committee is holding a Hearing on National Popular Vote legislation. I cannot come to the hearing, so I am expressing my testimony via email.

I strongly believe in this legislation because “one person one vote” for US President is good for our country, and good for both Democrats and Republicans.

The current voting system makes the votes of some people more important than those of other people. If you live in a solidly Democrat or solidly Republican state, and you happen to favor the minority party, you feel that your vote for President “doesn’t count”. This is very bad for democracy.

The National Popular Vote legislation honors the idea that the Presidential candidate with the most votes of the American people ought to be our President. Basically it is a way to get around the undemocratic electoral college system.

And if the candidate who gets the most votes is going to win, then candidates will campaign in and care about voters in ALL states, not just a small number of so-called “battleground states”.

There are a number of things wrong with our voting system. We should get rid of the outdated electoral college. And we definitely must stop voter suppression, outlaw the use of voting equipment that leaves no paper trail, and restore the vote to all people released from prison regardless of what state they’re in. We should overthrow Citizens United and get corporate money out of our elections. And Primary campaigns should be conducted in a more fair way, so that voters can learn about every candidate. We should have a ranked voting system so that everyone can vote first for the candidate they most prefer.

**But in the meantime, before we correct everything, here’s one wrong thing that the states that believe in democracy, like Oregon, can correct before 2020—join with other states in an interstate compact to ensure that the Presidential nominee with the most votes will be the winner.**

Please vote this legislation out of committee so that all the legislators can consider it.

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