

Esteemed State Representatives,

As a nation, we are facing a clear and present danger—the right to vote in the United States has been compromised and is under further attack. The realization that a losing candidate can ascend to the presidency damages public confidence in our democracy.

To elect our president, and for that election only, we come together to cast our votes as a nation. The integrity of and public confidence in that process is essential to our democracy. The presidency must go to the candidate who wins the national popular vote.

When you stepped up to serve in the Oregon State Legislature, you promised that you would put the interests of the people and of our democracy first. You promised that you would be a leader, someone who would know enough to do the right thing and then stand up in the public forum for your choice.

It is time for you to do just that.

- The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact means that the citizens of the United States vote, the votes are counted, and the person who wins the election is our president. Would you argue against that?
- Urban Oregon has been disenfranchised twice by fact that the electoral college voted for the losing candidate. Why would you support that disenfranchisement?
- Rural Oregon has been disenfranchised numerous times by the Electoral College winner-take-all system to which you have committed the State of Oregon. Why would you support that disenfranchisement?

Let the people of the State of Oregon see that their legislators, the people we have trusted and elected, stand without compromise for the Electoral College to be controlled by these principles: one person, one vote; let every vote count; and let our president be elected by the national popular vote. I urge you to support HB2927.

Respectfully,

Martha Balshem, Ph.D.