

Please see that HB 2729 gets voted on in the house and is passed on to the Senate for a vote. This is an important bill and would invigorate elections in this country. Voter fatigue happens when people feel their vote doesn't count. And for many in this country, their vote hasn't counted.

We feel the most pressing issues which deserve our time and energy are 1) our planet's health and 2) gaining a true democracy in this country where every person's vote counts the same as everyone else's. If you are a US citizen living in Oregon, your vote didn't count much; if you voted for Donald Trump, your vote didn't count at all. That's why we, in Oregon, didn't once have a visit/event with either one of the presidential candidates.

It has been disconcerting to us that in the past 18 years, two of the last three presidents got into office without majority of US citizens' votes. This past year, that difference is by almost 3 million votes. It is unfair that swing states citizens' votes count more than everyone else's. Whether our states voters are predictable or not, we deserve to see and meet presidential candidates and our votes should count the same as anyone else in this country.

Most people believe that getting rid of the electoral college is close to impossible, but we feel the National Popular Vote compact is an "elegant solution" to this problem which has already been passed by quite a few states. When an adequate number of states mandate its electoral college to vote for the candidate receiving the majority of votes nation-wide, we will have true and fair representation for all of us....minority, majority, city-dwellers and rural citizens alike.

As to the issue of the planet's health, these two issues are related. It should be noted that in the 2016 Gallup poll, 65% of Americans believe global warming is caused by human activity, up from 55% during the previous year. (98% of the world's climatologists believe the same.) Global warming issues would be very different if the candidates Gore & Clinton, who won the most votes nation-wide in 2000 and 2016, had been elected President.

This is an issue I feel must be addressed. It is unconscionable that it was passed by the House in three prior years, and was not even allowed to come to a vote in the Senate.

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