

Coughlin Ann

From: Eric Halperin <ehod1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 9:02 PM
To: SRULES Exhibits
Subject: HB2927 Support

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing in support of HB2927, the National Popular Vote Compact, and in opposition to SB825 that would refer the issue to a ballot initiative.

These are my reasons for supporting the NPV:

* I believe in one person, one vote. It is time for our country to elect the president in the same manner as all other elected officials.

* I believe this will begin to reduce the red/blue divide in our nation. States will not simply be judged as to whether they are red, blue or purple. Every voter, in every state, whether small state or large, urban voter or suburban or rural, will have their own vote counted equal to all others.

* This will not disenfranchise any voter; it will, in fact, enfranchise all voters. All votes count equally.

* This does not eliminate the Electoral College. It simply repurposes how a state chooses to assign their Electoral votes, in keeping with the Constitution.

* This is not a partisan issue. It may affect Republicans as well as Democrats, or any party in the future. Our current winner-take-all structure is not dictated by the Constitution. It is a political structure initiated by the states nearly 200 years ago.

These are my reasons to oppose referral to a ballot initiative:

* The Constitution assigns the task of deciding the method of awarding electoral votes to the state legislatures

* This issue is no different than all of the other important issues and laws decided upon by the legislature. Why should it be singled out to go to the initiative process? Just because it is about voting is not a reason. The motor voter law was not referred. Registering 16 year olds was not referred.

* When the current winner-takes-all legislation was created it was not by initiative.

* Every state currently aligned in the Compact did so by statute, not by initiative.

* There is methodology for opponents to obtain a statewide vote on legislation. The burden should be on the opponents to force this vote, not on the legislature to require it.

* It is costly and sets a completely unnecessary precedent.

Thank you for your time. Please put HB2927 onto the Floor of the Senate for a vote.

Eric Halperin, O.D.
Netarts and Tillamook

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad