

I understand you will be holding a hearing on HB 2927, that National Popular Vote Interstate Compact. I strongly support this bill, and encourage you to pass it out of committee. I also urge you NOT to pass SB 825, which refers the change to voters.

I could craft my own description of why I have those positions, but these paragraphs, from the National Popular Vote Oregon group express it well:

As an Oregonian I strongly urge the Oregon legislature to pass HB2927 as is and not pass SB 825. The President should be representative of all people of the United States and it is time we adopt the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact so one person = one vote. My vote should count equally as any other voting individual in any other state.

The constitution grants state legislatures the responsibility of determining how our electors vote in the electoral college. It is in all of your hands to have Oregon help lead the way, away from statewide-winner-take-all towards election by a national popular vote. I urge you to not support SB 825 which abdicates this constitutional responsibility of the legislature in favor of referring the issue to the voters. In the history of the electoral college this decision has never been made by anyone other than the legislature, this includes when Oregon adopted it's current winner-take-all system. Interestingly, it was not until 1824 that the United States first saw an election where the majority of states used a statewide winner-take-all voting method for choosing their presidential electors.

Changing our system away from statewide winner-take-all isn't unheard of in our country's history; having the people decide that issue instead of the state legislature is unheard of. Please pass HB 2927 out of committee and do not pass SB 825.

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