

I am strongly in favor of passing HB 2927 as is and not of passing SB 825.

The President must represent every person in the United States, and it is time for Oregon to adopt the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact so that every single vote for President counts. Statewide-winner-take-all elections are unfair, as we have seen in the 2016 election, in which Hillary Clinton received almost 3 million more votes than her opponent, yet lost because of slim margins in a few battleground states. When voters know that their votes could be thrown out through winner-take-all, they may choose not to go to the polls at all. Turnout can only increase with the National Popular Vote, and that will strengthen our country.

The constitution grants only state legislatures the responsibility of determining how our electors vote in the electoral college. SB 825 would allow abdication of this constitutional responsibility of the legislature in favor of referring the issue to the voters. This would be unprecedented, subject to legal challenge, and likely block Oregon's adoption of the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact indefinitely. Legislators in favor of this bill are not being honest with the electorate -- they do not want "one person, one vote"!

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. The issue must come up for a vote in the Senate in this session.

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