

I support HB2927 and do not support SB825.

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

I DO NOT support SB825 because:

1. The U.S. Constitution specifically assigns the job of choosing the method of awarding electoral votes to the state legislature. There has never been a case in U.S. history where anybody other than the state legislature made this decision. Oregon's winner-take-all law was not referred to a vote by the people. It is the job of the legislature to decide this issue.
2. The Oregon Constitution provides a specific way for opponents to obtain a statewide vote on legislation after it is passed by the legislature. Under this established "referendum process," the opponents HAVE THE BURDEN of getting a certain number of signatures against what the legislature has passed within 90 days after it passes. The questions then goes onto the November general election ballot. The plan proposed by Senators Courtney and Devlin turns this totally upside-down. The opponents don't have the usual burden under the Oregon Constitution of demonstrating substantial opposition to the legislation by getting a petition signed.
3. Under SB 825, the vote would be in a low-turnout primary election, instead of the November general election.
4. Running a ballot campaign in Oregon is extremely costly. Without enough money it's impossible to raise this issue enough for it to stand out. It would be very easy for a well-funded opposition group, likely from outside Oregon, to come in and confuse the issue. We don't want a repeat of measure 97 resulting in a non-Oregonian getting to influence how your vote counts.
5. The legislature knows public interest democracy groups don't have the cash to run a ballot initiative. This is an attempt to kill this bill.

Thank you,

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