

Chair Burdick and Senate Rules Committee Members:

I am not able to attend today's hearing on SB 825, so I am writing to urge you to oppose referring National Popular Vote to the ballot and support HB 2927 without amendment.

Because Oregon electoral-reform groups lack the resources to wage an expensive ballot-measure campaign, referral/SB 825 would have the practical effect of killing National Popular Vote in Oregon. Moreover, it simply isn't necessary, either legally (the Constitution explicitly gives state legislatures the power to decide how to allocate their electoral votes) or politically (the latest polling shows 76% of Oregonians support NPV). Referring this issue to the ballot would be a disingenuous decision and a dereliction of the Legislature's Constitutional duty.

As a Democrat, I expect bolder action from my representatives at this time. So do the many other active Democrats closely watching this issue, including the members of the 25 county Democratic parties that have endorsed HB 2927. Please oppose SB 825, support HB 2927 as written, and put Oregon on the right side of this movement for a sensible, fair electoral system.

With respect and appreciation for all you do,

JF

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