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Jun 20, 2017

Senate Rules Committee OR

Dear Committee,

My name is Michael Kennedy and I am a veteran of the cold war and old enough to remember when our politics were less divisive, before redistricting and before religion was allowed in politics. I have been a staunch supporter of Democracy and the social safety net. But HB

2927 will jeopardize our Democracy. The idea of a National Popular Vote is missing the point on our Democracy. If we have a popular vote then a candidate will only have to travel to three or four states to win the election, NY, California, Texas and Florida. This will disenfranchise 46 other states and states with small populations who will have no say in our countries presidential politics. This is a bad idea and will polarize out country more than redistricting did. If you want to fix the system then stop concentrating the power in the hands of the wealthy and allow a diversified voting population. Remember there are people who do not live in cities, who grow our food, live on very little money and have simple lifestyles. They deserve a voice and our current system, give them that voice. Oregon is a good example of a concentration of power. Portland and Bend have large population and as a result of the rest of the State has to bow down to these two places just because of the amount of voters. This has unbalanced Oregon politics and initiative and referendum process is out of date and needs be modified.

I urge the committee to shelve HB 2927 and save our Democracy.

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Kennedy 3022 NE 7th Ave Portland, OR 97212-3139 (971) 303-9313