

I feel that this move to align our state's vote with the national popular vote is a huge mistake. It totally removes the incentive to vote and participate in the Presidential election because everyone knows in advance that California, New York and Illinois have enough votes to outvote the rest of the country. The electoral college was designed to give power to smaller states because the writers of the Constitution knew that not all the states would join the Union if their citizens felt that they would have no say in the election of the President. And that was when the Presidency had very little power compared to today.

To make matters worse, illegal aliens are given driver's licenses and registered to vote in many states, and even though a measure passed recently in Oregon that forbade this, our representatives ignored the will of the people and have now enacted this anyway. If we have a President elected in the future and enough people believe that the election was won by illegal aliens adding to the popular vote, our country is going to be vastly more divided than it is now. If a state finds it has no say at all in the Presidential election, that would essentially void the agreement for each state to join the Union and I have to believe some states would want to secede. That would not be good for our country.

The United States is based on the rule of law and a respect for the fairness of elections. Without it we have no social glue to hold us together. SB 870 and motor voter registration are clever ways to get around the Constitution, but they will dissolve the social glue.

Be careful what you wish for, is a wise saying. Cleverly altering the electoral college to guarantee that Democrats run this country forevermore might be an appealing idea, but I don't think you will be ruling a peaceful or happy country. Perhaps it would be better to win by improving citizen's lives, or not winning at all and trying harder to listen to the concerns of all the citizens in the next election.

I am sure you will pass SB 870 anyway as the lust for power will probably outweigh common sense. I hope I am wrong about the outcome. I am an old man who simply wants to live in a peaceful country and enjoy my grandchildren.

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Alex Paul