

All votes must count equally; all major party candidates must be listed on every ballot in every state

The antiquated Electoral College (EC) is one of the most undemocratic aspects of our political system. It appears that as times goes on that the EC vote results in increasing numbers of Presidents to be elected with less than the largest number of national popular votes. That is because the votes of voters in low voter state carry a heavier weight than voter in high voter states., resultng in three Presidents in this century alone to assume the office in spite of not having the majority popular vote.

Realizing that the Founding Fathers did not intend to institute a democratic system does not mean that we today should not strive for one. The Electoral College, as noted, is the most undemocratic institution. It needs to either be abolished or the system for selecting Electors must be changed so that the undemocratic results of 2000 and 2016 do not continue beyond today.

Therefore, I strongly support the National Popular Vote Compact and urge that you vote Yes for SB870 and for democracy.

I do note that the OR Progressive Party has brought via the testimony of their legal representative Dan Meek to light grave danger that the National Popular Vote Compact's intent could be undermined by the actions of specific states. Those states could enact requirements on candidates, like making public their past tax returns or being a member of an organization, in order to be placed on a state's ballot. By excluding candidates from state ballots, the results will not actually reflect the results which would prevail if all candidates were on the ballot.

He suggest specific language to fix this problem. I urge you to amendment the Compact to require that all states put at minimum all major party candidates on their ballots. Mr. Meek has suggested this language by added to SB870.

If a State fails to place all nationally-recognized major candidates for President on the general election ballot or fails to tally and report the votes cast for any such candidate, the national popular vote total, for the purposes of this Compact, shall exclude all votes from that State.

Thank you

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