

# I OPPOSE SB 1512

Brooke Hazard

HD 44

I support National Popular Vote (NPV) and the bill that has already passed the Oregon House four times and which Senators have been denied the right to vote on since 2009. I oppose SB 1512, which sends the NPV to referral for the following reasons:

- The founders gave the authority to make this decision to state legislators as stated in [Article II, Section I](#): "Each State shall appoint, in such Manner **as the Legislature thereof may direct**, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress . . ." Every law in every state saying how electoral votes should be awarded has been decided by state legislators. This is the job of the legislators as stated in the Constitution.
- If a referral campaign were successful, the validity of our participation in the compact would be sure to be challenged in court, with Oregon taxpayers paying the legal bills. It isn't a responsible use of time or resources to refer an issue to the voters when there is even the slightest question about if this can be decided by the voters.
- We already voted in our legislators to make this decision. Denying Senators the right to vote on this bill after it has passed the house four times, and then trying to refer it to the people is abhorrent. We wouldn't be having this conversation if Senators had been allowed to do their job in 2017 and have a floor vote on the house-referred bill.
- A referral invites out of state anti-democracy special interest groups to spend millions of dollars in Oregon to influence this campaign. The Koch Brothers have pledged to spend \$400 million this year on "politics and policy to shape November's midterm elections nationwide." Oregon will see some of this money, if NPV becomes a ballot measure.
- The 35-day short session was created to deal with fiscal issues. Senator Peter Courtney has said there is no time this session to pass cap and trade. Why is NPV even a focus? Why is a bill without any named sponsors, the Rules Committee first order of business? Where was this interest last year when SB 2927 sat in Rules without moving?

**I WANT MY VOTE, AND EVERY VOTE, TO COUNT TOWARDS ELECTING OUR PRESIDENT!**

As such, I respectfully request that the House Committee on Rules move HB 2927 forward and the Senate not move SB 1512 out of Rules.