

Honorable Chair Burdick and Committee Members

I am opposed to National Popular Vote, as is presented in SB1512.

The Short Session was never meant to handle complex issues that would fundamentally change our voting system. Presenting it during short session is distressing as it gives inadequate time for the people to examine and give their input to such a fundamental change in the way we vote. The National Popular Vote (NPV) has been debated in preceding sessions and lost. It is obviously too short a time to deal with it adequately during the short session.

National Popular Vote would cause a constitutional crisis. If the NPV were to be enacted, the following presidential election would constitute a legal challenge that would put our country into a constitutional crisis. It violates Article 1 Clause 10 Section 3. "No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay." There is zero chance that Congress would give its consent to such a scheme! If by some miracle they did give consent there would still be a court battle. It would lead us into chaos, crisis and ultimately under time constraints **Congress would choose our President instead of the people.**

The whole country should agree together on how an election is run. This scheme divides our country. We have already agreed on the Electoral College through the Constitution. The states who do not adopt the NVP scheme are working under a different system. The NVP is a direct work around the electoral college. The founders debated the presidential election process but deliberately put in a different plan than the direct election of our President. If you want to change the law, **it should be done with an amendment to the Constitution.**

The National Popular Vote threatens state sovereignty as the laws and circumstances of one state can change the vote in another state for which they have no control and have no representation. if any problems arise out of the mechanics of this system, the other states have ZERO standing to remediate the problem. Attached is Federalist Paper #68 by Hamilton, on the election of the President to give you perspective. This is the debate that the founders considered when they put the electoral college in place. They specifically kept the electors in their home state during the vote for the electoral college in hopes that it would keep outsiders from influencing the state's electors. They wanted to keep the electors of each state connected to the people of that state. **The National Popular Vote directly conflicts with state sovereignty.**

See also attached:

The Heritage Foundation white paper: "Destroying the Electoral College" by Hons von Spakovsky which shows the flaws of the National Popular Vote scheme.

The Prager University video on the National Popular Vote:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXnjGD7j2B0&feature=youtu.be>

Please vote NO on SB1512

Best Regards,
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