HB 3475

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## NO to the National Popular Vote

The Electoral College was set up to help small populations in the smaller states to have as much, or more of a voice in elections than the largest, most populous states. Small states get as many votes as they have representatives, based on population. Why would we give up that advantage in Oregon?

We get to vote as individuals, and then we also get to vote as a State.

The National vote destroys the federalist idea that was created to give an advantage to states that have smaller populations. It was to give each state the benefits of federalism—which is the voluntary cooperation of independent states working with each other to elect the president.

Yes, sometimes in the 2<sup>nd</sup> vote we don't get our way, but we have five votes that carry the power of the state of Oregon. Why would we want to give up that power for somebody else outside of Oregon to decide how our votes are used?

Our founders did not list a large list of qualifications for the candidate for president, but they spent a great deal of time creating a system that would allow states to remain strong, and able to withstand nationalism—and now we want NATIONALISM?

Nationalism is the exercise of power from a central, national government, that everybody is obligated to obey, regardless of their own local desires.

With passage of this bill, Oregon will be giving up our Constitutional right to express ourselves as a state, and throw our will into the pot of equality of the popular vote, an expression of a nationalist voice. The ones, outside of Oregon, who decide how to use our popular vote, may not represent us as WE would have.

How can we EVEN CONSIDER going to a nationalist system, when we have the best through federal association? Let's retain our Oregon identity in the choice of who the president will be. The president is not nearly so important in a federal system, as the local, Oregon governor. Would we throw our choice of governor to a national system? Why allow those outside of Oregon to decide for us?