

Angela Roccograndi
29433 SW Glacier Way
Wilsonville, OR 97070

Dear Members of the Senate Rules Committee:

National Popular Vote (NPV) will allow all Oregon voters to fully participate in the presidential election process

NPV will allow all states, including Oregon, to be full participants in the presidential election process. For the past 3 presidential elections, a handful of “swing states” (including 2 small, 2 medium, and 6 large states) have virtually determined who the president was. Flyover states, one of which is Oregon, consistently miss out on post-primary/convention visits and opportunities to share their concerns with presidential candidates.

Under NPV, no states will have unequal influence in the process. Votes from small, medium, and large states will each weigh the same. Presidential candidates will not focus their attention solely on large states. We know this for several reasons:

1. There is not one state where 100% of the electorate would vote for the same candidate. Even if CA has 12% of the population of the US, only 47% of those are registered to vote, and of those 44% are registered democrats – that is roughly 8M Californians who might vote for the democratic candidate. Over 137M Americans voted in the last election; votes from CA democrats made up only 6% of those votes.
2. Hillary Clinton won 48% of the popular vote in 2016. It took democratic voters from all 51 territories to get to just 48% of votes.
3. In the 2016 election, of the two biggest states in the nation: California, voted more or less 40% Republican and Texas voted more or less 40% Democrat. So, the votes of the two largest states virtually cancelled each other out.
4. Even in states perceived as republican or democrat, within state, and even county, elections often the other party has control. This is the case in New York where NYC does not dictate the governor; CA and IL.
5. The republican votes in large democratic states are not negligible. In 2016, Donald Trump received more votes in New York and California than he did in Alaska, Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia and Wyoming combined.

It takes the votes from all territories under NPV to elect a president; no area is negligible.

Likewise, presidential candidates will not just visit large cities. We know this for two reasons:

1. Urban areas tend to vote democratic and make up roughly 15% of the population; rural areas tend to vote republican and make up roughly 15% of the population; suburban areas tend to split the vote between republicans and democrats and make up 70% of the population. Visiting only “big cities” will not get any candidate the majority of votes they would need to win the national popular vote.
2. Data from the 2012 election in OH, a swing state, show that presidential candidates made visits to large, medium and small areas within the state in proportion to the percentage of the state’s population in those areas: large MSAs with 54% of the states population received 52% of the

campaign events, medium sized MSAs with 24% of the population received 23% of the events and rural areas with 22% of the population received 25% of the campaign events. Presidential candidates did not focus their attention on just large cities – they visited all areas of the state.

Oregon should join the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact. I urge the Senate Rules Committee to do pass SB 870 to the Senate floor for a vote.

Thank you.