

James Waite
Old Orchard Beach
LD 1578

I'm contacting you in opposition to LD 1578, An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote.

Mainers deserve to cast their own Electoral College votes for president, and should not have their voice stolen from them by binding our state's Electoral College votes to the winner of the National Popular Vote. This would effectively steal Mainers' voice in presidential elections and give it to residents of the most populated states and cities.

Not only does the Electoral College protect Maine's individual interest in presidential elections, it helps protect against election fraud and abuse. The Constitution empowers states to decide for themselves how to select their Electors. This ensures elections are conducted at the state level. That means election shenanigans in one state only affect the results of that state. Under the scheme of the NPV compact, election fraud in one state spoils the results of the lot, fraud anywhere becomes fraud everywhere.

The Electoral College was designed to preserve the voice of each state and to give them individual representation in selecting our nation's president. It gives candidates and campaigns reason to visit Maine, to earn our votes. Under the NPV scheme, a presidential candidate need only to win the votes of a small handful of cities and states throughout the country to secure the presidency, wiping out the voice and influence of Maine and other rural states.

We the people of Maine will decide who receives our EC votes, not this interstate compact. Don't steal Mainers' voice in presidential elections. I urge the committee to vote "Ought Not to Pass" on LD 1578.