

Vote **"OUGHT NOT TO PASS"** on **LD 1578**: An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote

Good morning, Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee.

My name is Victoria Bucklin and I live in Appleton. I ask you to Vote Ought NOT to pass on LD 1578.

The Framers of our Constitution gave us the Electoral College to protect us from the tyranny of the majority. Today, too many people no longer understand basic American civics, how our US Constitution works, and how it protects our freedoms.

Today there is a push throughout our country to replace the Electoral College with this unconstitutional and confusing program, the National Popular Vote (NPV). This new "compact" promises to save our democracy, which immediately shows the ignorance (or worse, the duplicity) of its promoters. The United States of America is NOT a democracy; we are a Republic, instituted to protect the voices of the minority against the rule of the majority or mob, through brilliant checks and balances that involve our legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government.

The National Popular Vote compact is an end-run around the Constitution and would further divide our country making our elections even more contentious and unfair. If this compact were to be realized, Maine and all other rural states would lose their voice and power to large urban areas. Candidates would no longer need to compromise on their platforms; all they would need to do is cater to NYC, LA, Chicago, Philadelphia, and the like. For example NYC had 3,194,974 active voters in 2020 compared to Maine's 1,118,183 registered voters.

What happened to our promise to protect those not in power?

To protect those not of the majority?

To make sure that all voices are heard?

When did we start to think that it is good to promote programs and policies that give more and more power to fewer and fewer people?

Let us put partisan politics aside and unite against this divisive and dangerous attack on our Constitution and the protections it provides through the Electoral College.

I urge you all to vote **"OUGHT NOT TO PASS"** on LD 1578.