



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**Testimony of Rep. Sally Cluchey in support of LD 1578, An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote  
Before the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs**

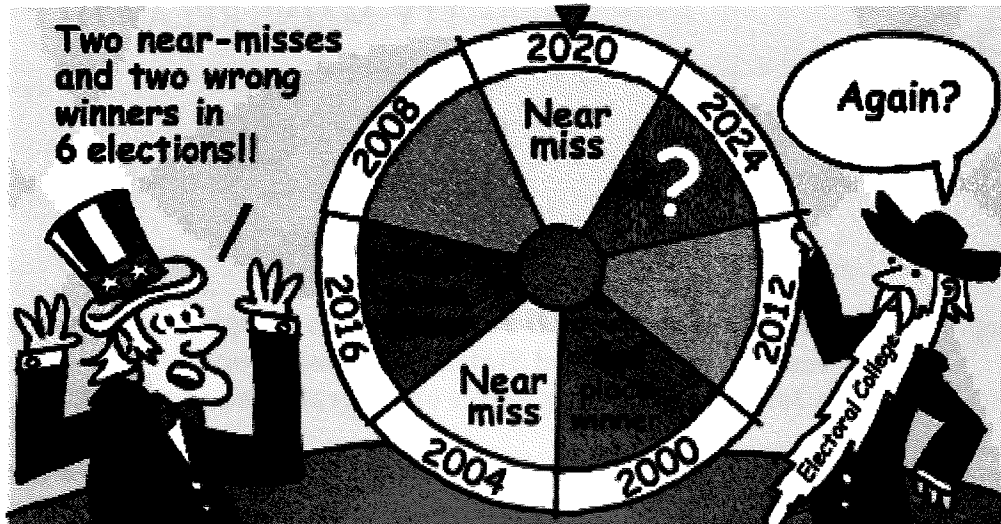
Good morning Senator Hickman, Representative Supica and esteemed members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee. My name is Sally Cluchey and I proudly represent the communities of Bowdoinham, Bowdoin and Richmond.

I am here today in support of LD 1578, an Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote because **it is important for democracy.**

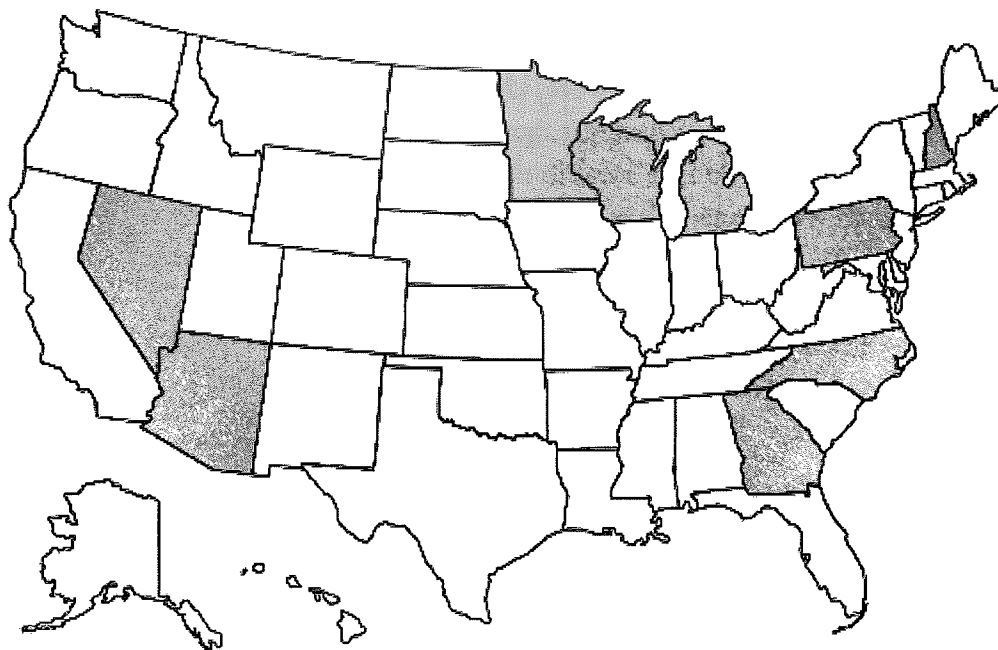
- **NPV will restore trust in presidential elections.** Five of our 46 presidents have come into office while losing the most votes nationwide. Our current system is leading to increased controversy, uncertainty, legal disputes, and a loss of public confidence in elections.
- **NPV will equalize the value of every vote.** Under NPV, voters in each state will be contributing to their preferred candidate's total, deemphasizing the importance of perceived "**battleground states**" which currently **receive disproportionate attention and spending.** Currently in Maine, if you live in CD1 and vote for a republican, your vote will most likely not contribute to the success of your preferred candidate. Under NPV, your vote will be added to your preferred candidate's total and could help them win.
- **NPV will reduce the opportunity for fraud.** With small margins in many states, the existing system is being targeted by political activists to try and change the outcome in "swing states." NPV would tie election outcomes to the will of the people, not to arcane electoral college procedures.
- **The arguments against NPV don't hold up.**

It might feel right now that politically a change like this could inflame an already tense moment. I believe that this policy change would actually reduce tensions more than just about any other question before the legislature. This is because it would make clear that each person's vote counts towards their candidate's total rather than getting tied up in some over complicated process. This is how our elections are supposed to work, and ultimately this change will restore faith in our electoral process at a time when we desperately need that faith restored. **There is no better time to do the right thing.**

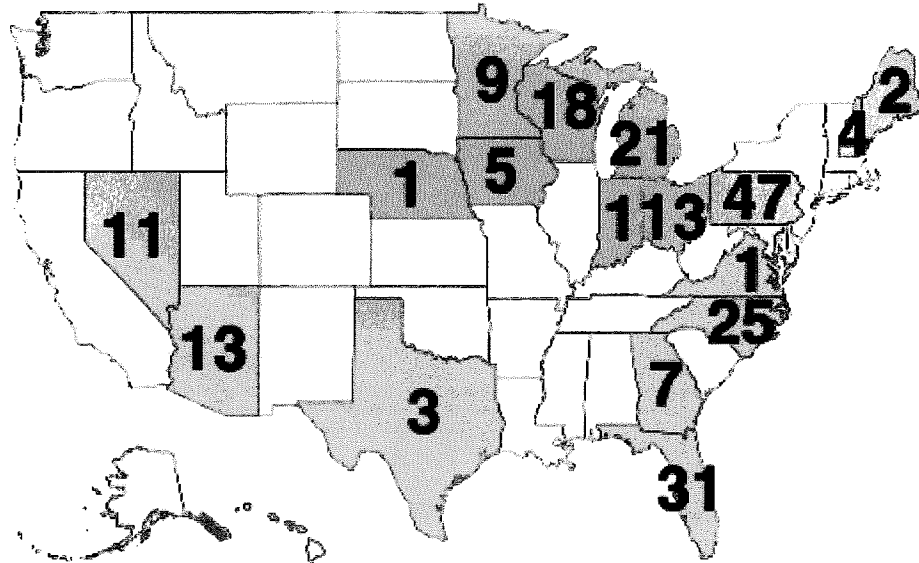
**In 6 Elections, 2 Near-Misses (2020, 2004) and 2 Second-Place Presidents (2016, 2000)**



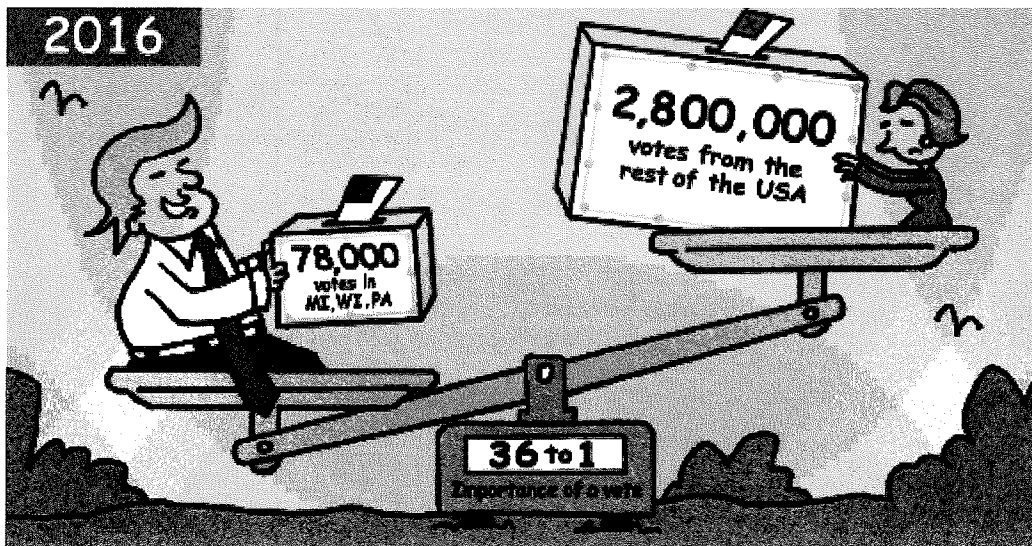
**41 States (with 80% of U.S. population) will be Ignored in the 2024 Presidential Election**



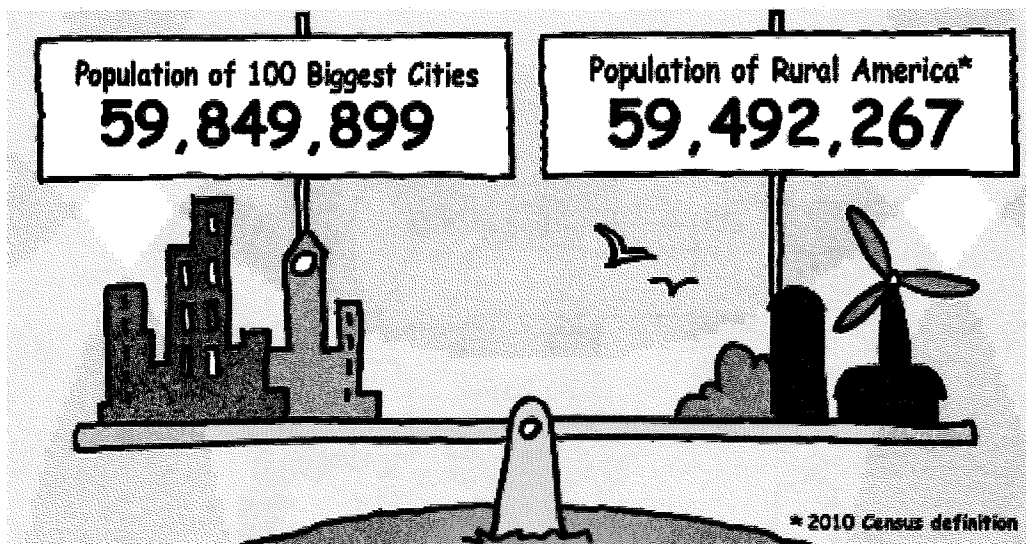
## Just 12 Closely Divided Battleground States Got 96% of 2020 Campaign Events



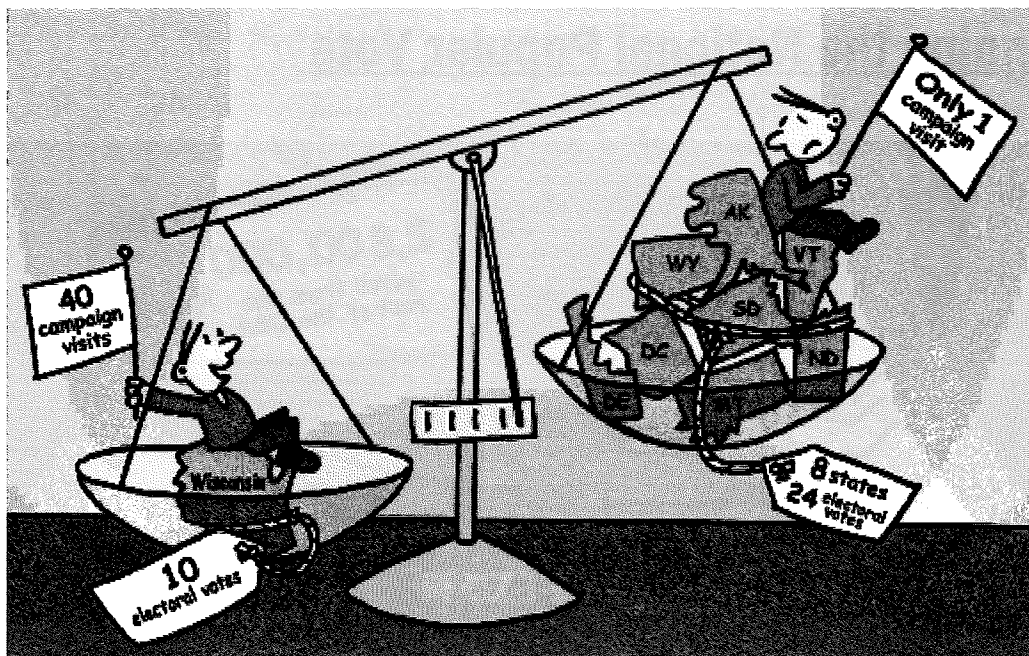
## 5 of 46 Presidents Came into Office Without Winning the National Popular Vote



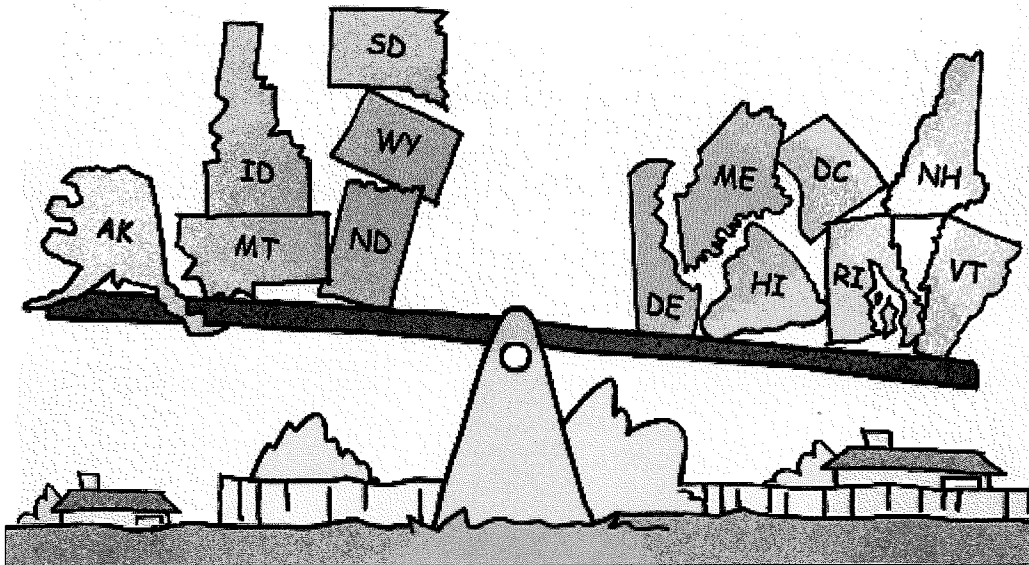
## America's 100 Biggest Cities Are Home to 19% of Population -- Same Percentage as Rural America



## Small States Do Not Benefit from Current System



## Small States Are Evenly Divided in Presidential Elections



## Rural States Are Almost Entirely Ignored Under Current State-by-State System

