



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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April 10, 2025

Testimony
In Support of

LD 252 An Act to Withdraw from the National Popular Vote Compact

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and distinguished members of the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, my name is Representative Barbara Bagshaw, and I'm proud to represent the people of District 106, which includes part of Windham. I come before you today to present and speak in strong support of **LD 252, "An Act to Withdraw from the National Popular Vote Compact."** This bill is rooted in one simple principle: *our electoral votes should reflect the will of Maine voters—not voters in other states.*

Maine has long embraced an independent spirit. We were the first state in the nation to split our Electoral College votes by Congressional District—a system that reflects our political diversity and values every voice, whether rural or urban.^[1] By joining the National Popular Vote Compact, we have undermined that legacy. We tie our electors not to Maine's choice, but to a national tally, effectively silencing our distinct voice.

Let's be honest—most Mainers, regardless of party, are unaware that under the compact, their vote could be nullified by what happens in Los Angeles, New York City, and Chicago. If the national vote differs from the majority vote here in Maine, our electors are bound to disregard the choice of our own citizens. That's not just unfair—it's confusing and fundamentally undemocratic.

This should be concerning to Maine voters of both parties, as it would silence the Second Congressional District's political independence from their neighbors in

southern Maine. On the other hand, if the NPV compact had activated for the 2024 election, Maine would have been forced to send all four electoral votes to Donald Trump despite the majority of Maine voters voting for Kamala Harris. While the nationwide winner would not have changed, three of Maine's four electoral votes served as a direct representation of the will of the Maine voters in the presidential election—voice that will be silenced under the NPV compact.

The NPV compact does not reform the Electoral College. It circumvents it. It creates a system where states commit their votes in advance, regardless of how their own citizens actually vote. Furthermore, it's not even a constitutional amendment. It's a workaround, and one that lacks broad public understanding, consent, or support.

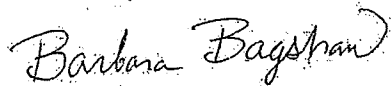
In practice, the compact forces every participating state to surrender control of their electors to the outcome of a nationwide count—however that count is conducted and those votes are tallied in states with different rules and standards. Maine voters should not be asked to place blind trust in election systems they didn't vote for and can't oversee.

LD 252 is a chance to restore clarity, consistency, and confidence to our elections. Mainers deserve to know that their vote for president counts in Maine—that it matters here, not just as a tiny statistic in a vast national pool. After all, Maine's proportional impact on the electoral college is more than 80% greater than our states' makeup of the national population (controlling 0.74% of the electoral college, but 0.41% of the national population). Thus, by abandoning the Electoral College, Maine directly dilutes its own impact on presidential elections.

Let's return our state to a system that respects the will of our people, honors our unique method of allocating electors, and maintains trust in the electoral process. I respectfully urge this committee to vote "Ought to Pass" on LD 252.

Thank you for your time and your service to our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Bagshaw".

Barbara Bagshaw
State Representative

We all sign an oath of office when we get elected.

"I, (name), do swear that I will support the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Maine, so help me God. I, (name), do swear that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as a notary public according to the Constitution of Maine and the laws of this State, so help me God."

The house passed NPV by one vote in the house. The Governor let this bill pass without her signature. Ask your self why?

I refer you to the Constitution:

Article I

Section 10

Powers Denied States

- **Clause 3 Acts Requiring Consent of Congress**
- No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State,