

We Can Work Together to Elect the President by National Popular Vote It is time for Virginia to join the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact

The problem

Five of our 45 Presidents have come into office without winning the most popular votes nationwide, including 2 of our most recent 3 Presidents. This is a result of state “winner-take-all” laws that award *all* of a state’s electoral votes to the candidate receiving the most popular votes in that state. Almost all states have these “winner-take-all” laws which leads to presidential candidates ignoring states where they are safely ahead or hopelessly behind, and outcomes where the popular vote winner is the Electoral College loser.

The opportunity

The Constitution allows each state to decide how they award their electoral votes. Determining how electors are chosen is a power granted exclusively to the state legislature in Article II, Section I of the U.S. Constitution. There is a way to achieve a national popular vote for President within the Electoral College.

The plan

The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact will guarantee the Presidency to the candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The Compact ensures that *every* vote, in *every* state, will matter in *every* presidential election. The Compact is a state-based approach that preserves the Electoral College, state control of elections, and the power of the states to control how the President is elected. The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact will go into effect when enacted by states with a majority of the presidential electors - that is, 270 of 538. After the compact comes into effect, every voter in all 50 states and DC will acquire a direct vote in the choice of all of the presidential electors from all of the states that enacted the Compact. **The presidential candidate supported by the most voters in all 50 states and DC will thereby win a majority of the presidential electors in the Electoral College and become the President.** Until the Compact goes into effect, the existing method of awarding electoral votes will be used.

The status of the NPVIC

Since 2006, 15 states and the District of Columbia, together possessing 196 electoral votes, have passed legislation joining the National Popular Vote compact. The bill will take effect when enacted by states with at least 74 more electoral votes (for a total of 270).

In Virginia, two bills are before the legislature that would replace Virginia’s “winner-take-all” method of awarding electoral votes, with the National Popular Vote bill, thereby awarding our 13 electoral votes to the winner of the national popular vote, when the compact is in effect.

The ask

Virginians are being asked to support HB 199 and SB 399 by contacting their legislators in support of the National Popular Vote bills. It is critical that we pass this bill in 2020 and ensure that every vote for President is equal. Please contact your legislators & spread the word through your networks to help us ensure 1 person 1 vote for future presidential elections.

Take action now: <http://nationalpopularvote.com/va>