



Republican National Committee

September 6, 2011

Reince Priebus
Chairman

The Honorable John Boehner
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Cornyn
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bob McDonnell
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 23218

The Honorable Pete Sessions
2233 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Republican Leadership:

I am writing to inform you of the overwhelming support that the Members of the Republican National Committee (“RNC”) voiced in opposition to the notion of a National Popular Vote (“NPV”) and any other means of doing away with the Electoral College. Four weeks ago at the RNC’s Summer Meeting in Tampa, FL, Members of the RNC brought to consideration of the Committee, the issue of NPV. Ultimately, the Members unanimously rejected the concept of NPV.

Recently, we have seen quiet support for NPV that would circumvent Constitutional provisions and allow for a handful of populous states to choose the next President of the United States of America. Not only would this plan cause instability in how we choose our president, but it flies in the face of the Founding Fathers, who believed concentrations of power amid large states was damaging to democracy.

At the RNC Resolutions Committee meeting on August 5th, the Committee Members hosted a debate. Debaters included both an expert in favor of NPV and an expert supporting preservation



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of the traditional Electoral College. What followed was a lively discussion of the Constitutional and practical applications of NPV. After the debate, a resolution, cosponsored by over 100 RNC Members opposing NPV, was presented to the Resolutions Committee for a vote. After unanimously passing through the Resolutions Committee, the resolution was brought before the entire RNC at its General Session Meeting. As stated, the resolution opposing NPV passed the general body unanimously.

The RNC stands behind the voice of its Members in opposing NPV and supporting the time-tested Electoral College. The RNC encourages state legislatures to reject any attempt to adopt NPV.

Sincerely,



Reince Priebus
RNC Chairman

Enclosure

RESOLUTION OPPOSING “NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE COMPACT”

WHEREAS, the Constitutional method of electing the President of the United States through the Electoral College was the method deemed best by the founding fathers of the United States of America for ensuring state sovereignty because all states, both large and small, are included in the presidential election process; and,

WHEREAS, the Constitution preserves the balance of power and authority between the federal and state governments through the mechanism of the Electoral College; and,

WHEREAS, the Electoral College has been tested and proven itself over 56 presidential elections as the method to best preserve our representative form of democracy, resulting in the election of a President by a majority of electoral votes not a mere plurality; and,

WHEREAS, the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact” if successfully implemented would eviscerate the constitutional Electoral College process of electing the President of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the “National Popular Vote Interstate Compact” if successfully implemented would radically change the way we elect our President through a questionable legal maneuver by changing the rules of presidential elections via a compact between as few as 11 states instead of the normal 38 states needed to amend the Constitution; and,

WHEREAS, under the “National Popular Vote Interstate Compact,” if successfully implements would make a non-member state’s electoral votes are irrelevant because member states electoral votes would number 270 or more and they would award their votes to the national popular voter winner, effectively destroying the Electoral College; and,

WHEREAS, the “National Popular Vote Interstate Compact” if successfully implemented would undermine state authority and give more populated media markets power over the voice of the states; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Republican National Committee opposes this attempt to undermine the U.S. Constitution and the Electoral College by way of the “National Popular Vote Interstate Compact;” and, further be it

RESOLVED, the Republican National Committee does fully endorse retaining the constitutionally approved and time-tested Electoral College method of awarding electoral votes to candidates to win the office of President United States of America; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Republican National Committee strongly encourages all state legislatures and Governors to reject the “National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.”

As approved by the Republican National Committee, August 5, 2011