

• CONGRESSIONAL WORKSHOP •
Topic # 14
President Elected by Popular Vote?

Overview

Questions to ponder: Would small states be advantaged or disadvantaged by abolishing the Electoral College? Is the chance for voter fraud and falsification of voting outcomes more (or less) of a problem with a national popular vote? Why was the Electoral College adopted in the first place in lieu of a direct popular vote? What about an election being thrown into the House of Representatives due to a third party candidate's votes? Are you aware of the "back door" proposal called the "National Popular Vote Interstate Compact" to get around the E.C.? How about allocating E.C. votes proportionally within a state rather than by winner-take-all?

Background references

- <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/faq.html>
- <http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/1972372/posts>
- <http://www.multied.com/elections/Electoralcollegewhy.html>
- <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/182341/electoral-college>
- http://www.usconstitution.net/consttop_elec.html
- <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/09/22/us/politics/22electoral.html?scp=2&sq=Electoral+College&st=nyt>
- <http://www.apatheticvoter.com/DirectElection.htm>

Citations supporting the affirmative

- <http://www-tech.mit.edu/V112/N15/le.15o.html>
- <http://theelectoralcollegesucks.com/>
- <http://www.angelfire.com/electronic/WeThePeople/EC/index.html>
- http://www.opednews.com/articles/opedne_ryan_o_d_051130_parties_should_make_.htm
- <http://www.every-vote-equal.com/>
- <http://www.nationalpopularvote.com/>

Citations supporting the negative

- http://www.avagara.com/e_c/ec_directdanger.htm
- <http://www.fec.gov/pdf/eleccoll.pdf>
- <http://www.rubak.com/article.cfm?ID=10>
- <http://www.ashbrook.org/articles/electoralcollege-directpopular.html>
- http://www.avagara.com/e_c/ec_why.htm
- <http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/1958271/posts>

Additional Magazine References

- *Newsweek*, December 24, 2007, pg 68, "First Tuesday of Huh?"
- *New Republic*, December 10, 2007, pgs 11-14, "California Schemin'"
- *Washington Monthly*, April 2008, "Majority Rule at Last"