

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE IN SUPPORT OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE AND
2 URGING THE GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND SECRETARY OF STATE TO JOIN
3 THE LEGISLATURE IN OPPOSING ANY EFFORT TO REPEAL OR NULLIFY THE ELEC-
4 TORAL COLLEGE.
5

6 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

7 WHEREAS, the founding fathers, through deliberation and compromise,
8 devised the Electoral College to ensure each and every state is heard in the
9 presidential election process and keep the president independent of Con-
10 gress; and

11 WHEREAS, the Electoral College is part of the United States Constitu-
12 tion's system of checks and balances, necessary to ensure that the people and
13 interests of smaller states are not disregarded; and

14 WHEREAS, the Electoral College, as provided for in the Constitution of
15 the United States, provides a balance between rural and urban interests by
16 ensuring that winning candidates must reach beyond their own base of support
17 and have support from multiple regions of the country; and

18 WHEREAS, all states currently allocate their electoral votes based on
19 the vote of citizens within their state, which is an appropriate exercise of
20 state legislative authority pursuant to Section 1, Article II of the United
21 States Constitution; and

22 WHEREAS, the founding fathers explicitly rejected a national popular
23 vote for president and instead created the Electoral College, strengthening
24 federalism by making states the constituency responsible for selecting the
25 president; and

26 WHEREAS, the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact would effec-
27 tively amend the Constitution without the appropriate Constitutional
28 process for amendment or building national support and consensus for the
29 proposed change; and

30 WHEREAS, the election practices of some states are incompatible with
31 the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact and such incompatibility may
32 make it impossible to conclusively determine a winner; and

33 WHEREAS, the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact gives extraordi-
34 nary power to the chief election official of member states to judge the elec-
35 tion results of other states and determine whether and how they are to be in-
36 cluded in the national vote tabulation; and

37 WHEREAS, the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact would diminish
38 the importance of individual states in presidential elections and create the
39 potential for federal intervention in the states' election processes; and

40 WHEREAS, under the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, a state's
41 electoral votes could be given away to a candidate who is opposed by the ma-
42 jority of the state's citizens; and

1 WHEREAS, any attempt to modify the current Electoral College would
2 jeopardize a system that has been an effective check and balance for over two
3 centuries in providing a conclusive outcome.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Ses-
5 sion of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives
6 and the Senate concurring therein, that the members of the Idaho Legislature
7 support the Electoral College system and are steadfastly against the adop-
8 tion of the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Legislature encourage the
10 Governor, Attorney General, and Secretary of State to join the Legislature
11 in opposing any effort to repeal or nullify the Electoral College system and
12 to examine policies that would prevent the National Popular Vote Interstate
13 Compact from being adopted.