**Why Should We Abolish the Electoral College?**

**What did the framers of the Constitution intend?**

- Avoid selection of president by Congress, to maintain independence between the branches.
- Help bridge information gap across large distances with limited communication.
- Presidential choice should be based on the popular wishes of the citizenry.
- But electors could exercise discretion in case of “poor choice” by the people (not borne out in practice).
- Not a well-thought-out system: “The second choice of many but the first choice of few.”

*None of the founders’ original concerns remain relevant today.*

**The Electoral College is an imperfect system that is damaging to our democracy.**

- Puts the choice of president in the hands of voters in only a few so-called “swing states.”
- Decreases participation in our democracy.
- Polarizes our electorate into “red” and “blue.”
- Has resulted five times in a presidential winner who did not receive a majority of the votes.

**MYTH**

- Without the Electoral College, our presidents would be chosen by just a few large states.
- Smaller states need the Electoral College to ensure their interests are represented.
- The Electoral College protects the rights of the minority from the tyranny of the majority.
- Abolishing the Electoral College will mostly benefit Democratic candidates.

**FACT**

- Election by popular vote would mean every person is equally represented, regardless of where they live. We no longer would be voting by state, but by person.
- There is no coherent “small state” interest that needs protecting by the Electoral College. The representatives of small states do not vote as a bloc in Congress, and their citizens do not vote as a bloc for president. Presidential candidates have not focused their campaigns on any supposed “small state” issues. The Electoral College actually diminishes the representation of the residents of larger states.
- The Courts and the Senate protect the rights of minority groups. The president is supposed to represent the interests of all Americans. This means one person, one vote.
- This system can, and has, affected both parties. This is a non-partisan issue.

**How Do We Abolish the Electoral College?**

- A constitutional amendment has been introduced in Congress many times. We need to introduce it again, and pass it. This means contacting our legislators repeatedly and persistently.
- The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (NPVIC) is an acceptable interim solution. States agree to apportion their electoral votes to whomever wins the national popular vote.
- Assigning electors proportionate to each state’s popular vote would likely result in no candidate receiving a majority of electoral votes, which would send the decision to the House of Representatives. Not an acceptable solution.