



*Speaker & Mrs. Newt Gingrich*

Dr. John R. Koza, Chair  
National Popular Vote  
Box 1441  
Los Altos Hills, CA 94023

January 14, 2014

Dear Dr. Koza:

It was a pleasure to meet with you recently to discuss your National Popular Vote initiative. This important project has the potential to transform the way we elect our presidents and to make sure all Americans have a voice in their future.

No one should become president of the United States without speaking to the needs and hopes of Americans in all 50 states. We are a country of 314 million people, the most diverse nation on Earth. This is one of our greatest strengths, and it means our president must be the president of an enormously complex and varied country -- of those in midtown Manhattan and southern California, as well as those in rural Oklahoma and the wilderness of Alaska.

Unfortunately, the current system for electing presidents does not reflect this tremendous diversity. The winner-take-all method of allotting electoral votes means candidates must focus their efforts on just a handful of closely divided states -- Ohio, Florida, and Virginia being current examples. In fact, only 12 states received any attention at all from the nominees of either party in the most recent general election campaign. This left Americans in 38 states absent from some very important debates about the future of our country.

Presidential elections are unique opportunities to have a national conversation. They are the venue in which arguments are made and challenged, the time when men and women who seek our highest office must get out of Washington and listen to the American people. It is through this process that our leaders earn legitimacy and claim the trust of our country on election day. For this reason, I have always believed it is the obligation of great parties and good candidates to run truly national campaigns, addressing the concerns of Americans in all 50 states.

America would be better served with a presidential election process that treated citizens across the country equally. The National Popular Vote bill accomplishes this in a manner consistent with the Constitution and with our fundamental democratic principles.

I congratulate you on all you have achieved so far, and wish you the best of luck in this effort.

Sincerely,



Newt Gingrich

Thank you for your  
citizenship and  
your leadership