



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 623

Chairperson: Bill Avery
Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Date of Hearing: March 11, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 623 adopts the interstate compact to elect the President by a National Popular Vote. LB 623 would only take effect when enacted by states possessing a majority of the electoral votes. Currently the compact has been enacted by four states, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland and New Jersey representing 50 electoral votes or 19% of the 270 needed to bring the compact into effect.

When the National Popular Vote compact takes effect it would assure that the person elected President of the United States has won the most popular votes nationwide. In 4 of the nation's 56 presidential elections, and in 1 of 7 of the non-landslide elections, has a candidate won the Presidency without winning the popular vote. Additional benefits of the plan include eliminating the possibility of faithless electors, eliminating the chance of a tie, and reducing the possibility of close elections and recounts where the votes in just one state make the difference.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Ken Haar