

## GARY ALAN HEBL STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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## Rep. Hebl Circulates Bill to Join Wisconsin into the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact

(MADISON) – Today Representative Gary Hebl (D- Sun Prairie) released LRB-0048, a bill that would have Wisconsin join the growing list of states in the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact. The compact is an agreement among several U.S. states and the District of Columbia that would award all of their Electoral College votes to the winner of the national popular vote.

The agreement only goes into effect when there are a majority of electoral votes represented in the compact. Currently, states representing 181 electoral votes are members of the compact, with Colorado joining most recently on March 15, 2019. By 2020, the National Popular Vote may also be passed in Delaware, New Mexico, Nevada, and Oregon.

"Americans and Wisconsinites want elected officials that represent the will of the majority of voters," Hebl said. "Because of how the United States presidential election system is set up, that is not always the case. Additionally, having a national popular vote would force presidential candidates to campaign in places they normal would not, instead of focusing on a handful of swing states."

In 2016, 92% of all campaign stops were held in just 12 swing states (Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Virginia, North Carolina, and Florida). More than half (57%) of all stops were held in just 4 states (Ohio, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Florida).

"A winner-take all Electoral College system has failed us," Hebl continued. "A national popular vote would release presidential candidates from focusing on those few states, to renew focus on states whose votes are currently a foregone conclusion. Those running for President would need to listen to a broader coalition of American citizens, and our country would be better for it.

"Joining Wisconsin's voice to the National Popular Vote Compact would send a signal that Wisconsin wants a President who will represent all of the country," Hebl finished. "It also will show that we stand for majority rule, and that the United States should always respect the will of the voters."

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