



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MAINE

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TO: The Honorable Senator John L. Tuttle, Jr.
The Honorable Representative Louis J. Luchini, Co-chairs
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

DATE: March 4, 2013

RE: LD 511 An Act To Implement the National Popular Vote for President

Good afternoon, my name is Valerie Marsh. I serve on the state board of the League of Women Voters of Maine and on its Advocacy Committee. I'm a volunteer with the League, and I live in the town of Pittsfield. The League of Women Voters offers testimony in support of LD 511 and the Interstate Compact on the National Popular Vote (NPV Compact).

The League of Women Voters supports election of the President and Vice President by direct popular vote and abolition of the Electoral College. The League supports this and other measures (such as national voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections) to ensure equity for all voters from all states in the election of the President and Vice President.

In the spirit of one person, one vote, we believe that the direct-popular-vote method for electing the President and Vice-President is essential to representative government. The League of Women Voters believes, therefore, that the Electoral College should be abolished. This is been our position since 1970.

In 2010, we amended that longstanding position. Today, we support the use of the National Popular Vote Compact as one acceptable way to achieve the goal of the direct popular vote for election of the president until the abolition of the Electoral College is accomplished.

Thank you for your consideration.

Valerie Marsh
League of Women Voters of Maine