

# MODEL CONGRESS BILL PROPOSAL

Bill Working Title:	Popular Vote Determines Presidency by amending the Constitution.
Position:	The President and Vice President should be elected by popular vote, and many voters today think they are voting directly for the candidate of their choice. The election system need not change; Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates would run together but be elected by popular majority.
Where does it take effect?	Circle one:    Locally    Statewide <b>Nationwide (federal)</b> Explain: All 50 states will vote for the President and Vice-President.
What will it do?	Article II and Amendment XII, establishes the Electoral College as the vehicle for electing the President and Vice President. The Electoral College was chosen by the founding fathers as the method of selecting these officers to avoid problems foreseen in having either the people or state legislatures pick the President and Vice President directly. This would amend the Constitution to make the election one based on popular vote.
Who does it effect?	Every voter in America. One person = one vote!
When does it take effect?	The 2020 Presidential election.
Why is it important legislation? Why does this matter?	In the elections of 1824, 1876, 1888, 2000, and 2016 Presidents were chosen by this system despite not being chosen by the popular vote. In the election of 1968 (Nixon vs. Humphrey,) a small margin of only 42,000 voters could have changed the election outcome. In addition, an elector who was selected as a Republican elector voted for George Wallace, a third party candidate. In this election, the potential for Presidential choices being quite different from popular or political expectations became evident. This election also made clear that a President could be elected by the eleven largest states, regardless of the wishes of the remaining thirty-nine others.  Believing in the wisdom of the founding fathers, those who wanted the Electoral College system continued to argue that the two-party system would be destroyed by a change; that the election process would be threatened by fraud, endless recounts and the need for national direction and control of the election process."1966 and again in 1970, The 2000 election ended up in the Supreme Court over Florida's electoral votes. To date, the Electoral College is still the system used to choose the President and Vice President of the United States. In order to change the present system, a constitutional amendment would be needed. It's time for that amendment.
How much will it cost and who will pay for it ?	Nothing.

## SOURCES:

Buckley, William. On the Firing Line. Random House: NY. 1988. Pp. 149-178

Voter Education. "Electoral College." IPLE: 1976. Pp. 63-67.

We the People. "The Constitution of the United States of America. National Bicentennial Commission." 1987. Pp. 138-143.

Why this is a good example.

1. This bill has a clear position and makes a solid argument.
2. This bill shows the history of the electoral college and its problems.
3. This bill has sources.
4. The weakness here is the lack of explanation of how the amendment process works. It's more complicated than just voting to get rid of it. Amending the Constitution requires more than just passing a bill.