

GRANITE STATE TAXPAYERS

Granite State Taxpayers, is non-partisan, non-profit with a Mission to inform, educate and motivate New Hampshire taxpayers and to lobby the legislature on their behalf. We advocate for low taxes, balanced budgets, frugal, limited government that works within its constitutional authority, and local control.

Granite State Taxpayers has studied election law and advocated for improvements for over 5 years. Informed voters acting through the ballot box provide a check on government.

TRANSPARANCY AND INFORMATION ARE CRITICAL FOR AN INFORMED ELECTORATE

Granite State Taxpayers and, more importantly, the public expect transparency in election results.

HB 1531 WOULD REQUIRE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION VOTE TOTALS TO BE KEPT SECRET FOR 2 MONTHS

The effect of the proposed legislative changes in HB 1531 is, absent a recount request, to prohibit the public release of the number of votes cast in the Presidential elections in New Hampshire until after the time set by law for the meeting and voting of presidential electors has passed in all states.

After the November 3, 2020 election, Electors will meet on December 14, 2020 and vote on Certificates of Vote, which are presented to the US Senate, where the electoral vote is counted on January 6, 2021.

HB 1403 would require the NH popular vote to be kept secret November 3, 2020 until January 6, 2021.

HB 1531 IS CONDITIONED UPON THE NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE INTERSTATE COMPACT

The HB 1531 vote secrecy obligation is *"suspended until such time that states cumulatively possessing a majority of the electoral votes have enacted the **National Popular Vote Interstate Compact** in substantially the same form and the enactments by such states have taken effect in each such state."*

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE WILL DISENFRANCHISE NH VOTERS.

The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact would guarantee the Presidency to the candidate who receives the most popular votes across all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The National Popular Vote Compact retains the Electoral College, but subordinates it to a national vote.

If the National Popular Vote compact takes effect, New Hampshire votes for President will be moot.

The 2016 Clinton popular vote margin was from New York City, Los Angeles County, District of Columbia, California and New York (4,269,978 and 1,736,590 for Clinton in 2016) would alone dictate the winner.

As a result, the viability of the New Hampshire Primary, and our political influence, will be lessened.

We support the vision of the Founders to promote Federalism and the influence of small states.

That vision includes their plan for the Electoral College and for the Composition of the US. Senate.

Details on Granite State Taxpayers' position on the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact are at:

<http://www.granitestatetaxpayers.org/gst/2019/06/26/goodbye-voting-for-president/>

HB 1531 reduces transparency and supports reducing influence of NH voters.

Granite State Taxpayers Opposes HB 1531