

Governors Support the National Popular Vote Plan



Gov. Patrick

"This is about a stronger democracy, and it's an important step in that direction."

- [Gov. Deval Patrick](#), Massachusetts, upon signing NPV bill on Aug. 4, 2010

"I am honored to join the other states that have enacted the national popular vote, which simply says 'your vote counts.' The person who gets the most votes wins. That's the way that it works for every other election in this great democracy. That's the way it should work for the President of the United States."

- [Gov. Peter Shumlin](#), Vermont, when signing NPV bill on April 22, 2011



Gov. Shumlin



Gov. Chafee

"A national popular vote would be vastly superior to the current system, which practically shuts out over 30 'safe states.' Not only is this a question of basic fairness, it is also in Rhode Island's interest. Right now, candidates have no reason to campaign here, organize here, or spend money here — getting more or fewer popular votes will almost never change the electoral vote outcome. Under a national popular vote, every vote would count equally, giving candidates an incentive to seek them here in Rhode Island. On election night, we would know that a vote in Rhode Island counted as much as a vote in any battleground state, and we would see our direct contribution to democracy in the national popular vote total...An equal vote for every American is a basic promise of our great democracy, and the presidential election should not be an exception. The states can — and should — make this promise a reality."

- [Gov. Lincoln Chafee](#), Rhode Island, in a 2008 op-ed; Gov.

Chafee signed the NPV bill on July 12, 2013



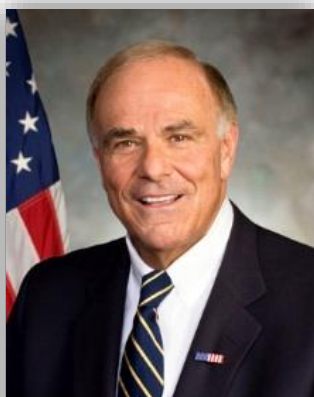
Gov. Cuomo

“With the passage of this legislation, New York is taking a bold step to fundamentally increase the strength and fairness of our nation’s presidential elections. By aligning the Electoral College with the voice of the nation’s voters, we are ensuring the equality of votes and encouraging candidates to appeal to voters in all states, instead of disproportionately focusing on early contests and swing states. I am particularly heartened to sign this legislation as it embodies both in process and substance the Empire State’s tradition as a national progressive leader. Today, in signing this legislation, I am pleased to add New York to the growing list of states who have joined together to make this reform a reality.”
 - [Gov. Andrew Cuomo](#), New York, who signed the NPV bill April 15, 2014

“I fully support a national popular vote for President. All Americans deserve to have their votes counted equally for the highest office in the country. Connecticut should join the nine other states and the District of Columbia in taking this important step. The candidate who wins the most votes should be president.”
 - [Gov. Dan Malloy](#), Connecticut, in press release February 24, 2014



Gov. Malloy



Former Gov. Rendell

“[If more state efforts to game the Electoral College], what you’re going to have is the National Popular Vote, which is under the radar screen. It’s a movement to get states to pass laws saying that they will give 100% of their electoral votes to whoever wins the popular vote. Already seven states and the District, representing 132 electoral votes... have passed laws saying that as soon as states representing 270 electoral votes have passed the same law, it would become law in those states. That would effectively end the Electoral College.... I think we should have a popular vote for president. Too many states are ignored. We have a 10-state election right now. If the popular vote carries, we’d have a 50-state election.”
 - [Former Gov. Ed Rendell](#), Pennsylvania, speaking as a guest on MSNBC’s *Hardball with Chris Matthews* January 24, 2013



Former Gov. Edgar

“We need a president who is president for all the nation, and not just the battleground states. And we have an opportunity to change that. And that’s why I’m very happy and excited to be involved in this effort [National Popular Vote], because we need to have a president whom the American people feel they selected, not that won because of a few states, but because of all of Americans.....When we started this nation, we were a nation of states. Now we’re a nation of one people. And we need to make sure that we elect our president that way.”

- [Former Gov. Jim Edgar](#), Illinois, at a news conference May 12, 2011

“The last thing we need is another divided election, where the person who gets the most votes does not become president of the United States. The 2000 election was not a pleasant experience for anyone on either side of the aisle. And as you already heard, we came close to having a similar problem in 2004. Had we had this happen again in 2004, there’s no question that both parties together would have demanded immediate electoral reform. We are here to advocate for changes before the next electoral crisis occurs. The good news is we are making progress. We are more than one-third of the way toward our goal to the 270 electoral votes needed. The public is overwhelmingly supportive, and today shows that we have broad nonpartisan, or bipartisan, support. I believe the time has come for states to join together to support the simple premise that an individual who wins the most votes for president should become the next president of the United States.”

- [Former Gov. Chet Culver](#), Iowa, at a news conference May 12, 2011



Former Gov. Chet Culver