

## **COMMON CAUSE MINNESOTA**

546 Rice Street Saint Paul, MN 55103 612.605.7978

www.commoncause.org/mn

January 30, 2023

Common Cause MN is a nonpartisan grassroots organization dedicated to upholding the core values of American democracy. We work to create open, honest, and accountable government that serves the public interest; promote equal rights, opportunity, and representation for all. **We respectfully ask members to support moving SF538 National Popular Vote.** 

Minnesota is home to over 18,000 multipartisan members across the state and despite belonging to various MN party affiliations, or not being affiliated, the one thing they've come together to do is support our work ensuring our Republic's democracy is safeguarded, our elections continue to reflect the will of Minnesotans and everyone's vote counts.

Currently, most states award all their electoral votes to the winner in their state, so candidates have no reason to campaign where they're significantly ahead or behind. But we can change that – with the National Popular Vote compact.

By agreeing to pledge their electoral votes based on the nationwide vote count, Minnesota can join the other states banded together to ensure the candidate who gets the most popular votes nationwide wins the presidency. That maximizes opportunity for making candidates compete for voters in all 50 states – big and small – instead of just a few swing states.

National Popular Vote won't take effect until enough states join in. 15 states and the District of Columbia have signed on totaling 195 electoral votes of the needed 270.

Minnesota is positioned to get us even closer to getting to the 270 needed. Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> and what we've learned since, has demonstrated that NPV is long overdue to ensure it's the will of the voter over the interests of one person's desire to cement power that is ultimately protected.

National Popular Vote would reshape our democracy for the better. It would ensure that the president is chosen by the will of the people – while also encouraging candidates to engage with voters in all 50 states, instead of in just a handful of closely contested states.

With the 2024 presidential election on the horizon, now is the time to act for a more democratic electoral process.

Thank you for your dedication to all Minnesotans as you work in committee.

Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera,

Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera

**Executive Director** 

