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Letter: Who benefits, loses from NPVIC?

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Leavenworth, Kan. —

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To the editor:

Who benefits, who loses from the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (NPVIC)?

One of the biggest misconceptions about the United States of America is that our form of government is a democracy. Franklin, Madison, Hamilton, and Jefferson were all very leery of a pure democracy. They pointed out that democracies do not long survive because democracies have no restraints on the majority. Franklin the oldest and wisest of the founding fathers made that point.

When leaving the Constitutional convention he was asked by a woman, “What have you given us, sir?” He replied, “A Republic, madam, if you can keep it.” The electoral college was one of the inspired devices created by our founders to help us keep that republic.

We are now faced with a clandestine movement which seeks to achieve a national popular vote for the presidency of the United States. My question is: Who benefits, who loses if those trying to achieve a national popular vote for president without amending the Constitution succeed?

John Samples’ policy analysis done for Cato Institute in 2008 indicates that on a state-by-state basis, those states which are known as the battleground states will actually accrue more influence in presidential elections rather than becoming less influential as many of the supporters allege. The top five gainers:

Pennsylvania +20%

Michigan +15%

Ohio +15%

Indiana +11%

Illinois +11%

The five biggest losers:

North Dakota -56%

Vermont -58%

Alaska -61%

District of Columbia -62%

Wyoming -67%

Small states generally are the losers in a national popular vote.

This scheme restructures presidential elections in the most major way possible by changing from state-by-state electoral districts to a single national electoral district. So, looking at it on that basis, who are the winners and losers? The major winners are the urban megalopolis on both seaboards and the losers are the rural and less urban states. If the center of the country is called “fly-over country” by the elites on the coasts, NPVIC will make that even truer.

Finally, the American people lose because this effort subverts the Constitution by eliminating another of the pillars of the federal constitutional republic so finely crafted in 1787.