

## Testimony in Opposition to SCR 4013 House Finance and Taxation Committee March 17, 2025

Chair Headland and Members of the House Finance and Taxation Committee: My name is Carol Sawicki, and I am a board member and representative of the League of Women Voters of North Dakota.

SCR 4013 is a resolution that supports the electoral college, denounces the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, and invites interested states to form the Electoral College Interstate Compact. The League of Women Voters of North Dakota opposes SCR 4013 for the following reasons:

- In the Electoral College system, the president and vice president of the United States are not elected based on the people's majority vote but rather on a convoluted system of electors. The Electoral College allows someone to become president by having the right combination of states, even without a majority of the popular vote.
- The Electoral College distorts the democratic promise of "one person, one vote" by awarding electoral votes from each state in support of a candidate instead of simply counting the total number of votes nationwide. The League of Women Voters does not support the Electoral College system and launched its <u>One Person One Vote campaign</u> in 2024 to abolish the Electoral College.
- Voters in some states may be disinclined to cast their vote for president since they feel
  that their vote will not matter under the Electoral College system. The League of Women
  Voters supports policies that encourage all citizens to participate as voters, not policies
  that tend to discourage voting.
- The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact would ensure that every vote cast in a
  presidential election holds equal weight, no matter the state in which it is cast. The
  League of Women voters supports the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, since it
  would create a more representative democracy.
- The League of Women Voters of North Dakota cannot support an "Electoral College Interstate Compact" which would be in direct opposition to the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

The League of Women Voters supports the direct popular vote of the US President, and we urge the House Finance and Taxation Committee to **give SCR 4013 a Do Not Pass recommendation**. Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

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