

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 73

Introduced by Ebke, 32; Chambers, 11.

Read first time February 24, 2015

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

WHEREAS, the President and Vice President of the United States are elected by the Electoral College which consists of 538 presidential electors from the fifty states and the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, a candidate must currently receive a majority of 270 electoral votes to win the office of President or Vice President; and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1, Clause 2, of the United States Constitution requires each state legislature to determine how presidential electors for each state are chosen; and

WHEREAS, in every state except Maine and Nebraska, presidential electors are chosen by a "winner-take-all" method which awards all presidential electors to the candidate who receives the most votes in those states; and

WHEREAS, Maine and Nebraska use a proportional method whereby presidential electors are allocated based on the popular vote winner within each state's congressional districts and the statewide popular vote winner receives two additional presidential electors; and

WHEREAS, advocates of the proportional method for allocating presidential electors believe it encourages grassroots organizing within each congressional district and incentivizes presidential candidates to broaden their campaigns in otherwise noncompetitive states; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of fairness, all states should have the same method for allocating presidential electors and the proportional method is most democratic method while still maintaining the Electoral College.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature urges each state to adopt or continue the proportional method for allocating presidential electors.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to each state legislature.