

Testimony AGAINST SB19-042

Laura Felix

Salient Points:

- We are a democracy and a federation of states. Electoral College was designed to prevent tyranny of large states. The senate is similar. Must we get rid of the Senate?
- As a "smaller state," I don't want my vote taken away from me.
- Why do we not see these popular votes movements when we get the leaders that the supporters of the current popular vote movements want? This is a "stick it to Trump," campaign. When some groups don't get the president they want, they will do anything to illegitimate the outcome and make sure it doesn't happen again. This outcry did not happen from conservatives during 8 years of Obama. If you don't like the result, don't change the country.
- Candidates will not campaign in smaller states. Smaller states will be insignificant.
- Texas and Florida would be our only hope for conservative values and we can see that there is an agenda aimed at swinging these states to progressive values through "Ban the Bible Bills," going on in Texas as an example. If we have no electoral college and we lose FL and TX, we have no chance at ever having a president that represents conservative values in the USA. It seems unconstitutional and frankly un-American to not have a voice, not have an outcome, not be heard.
- We are not a pure democracy. We are a Constitutional Republic and the Electoral College is THE constitutional method specified by the Constitution for selecting our president. We need to be careful about the word democracy because our liberty in many ways lies in the fact that we are a republic. We need the checks and balances of our constitution.
- We are also a Federal Republic. States existed before the Constitution and there was never a guarantee that they'd all act together. Each state in our federal republic deserves representation. Federalism is the basis of our nation and having this bill abolishing the Electoral College would dismantle it. Historically, states and the federal government share power – states had to ratify the Constitution, state legislatures are required for ratifying constitutional amendments and the Constitution can only be terminated by action of the states in a national convention.
- This bill is a usurpation of "we the people." We will cease to have a voice on the selection of president. As a Colorado voter, I matter just as much as voters from other states.
- We could have a limitless number of "microcandidates," and the winner could need only 10% of the vote to win and represent only 5% of the electoral college – no real mandate. The president should be elected by the will of the people and have a "broad and solid base for him to stand upon." (John Dickinson, PA delegate)
- President could claim "popular majority," to speak for the people against Congress. This is not a republic!

- Election of Electoral College (one of many systems considered by the Framers) allows us to have a temporary group of citizens who can not influence the president as they return back into the population post-election.
- What would happen in the case of a natural disaster where a state might have low-voter turnout. The EC helps equalize this and makes things fair for that state. With a popular vote, a state going through a disastrous time would not have representation – seems unfair!

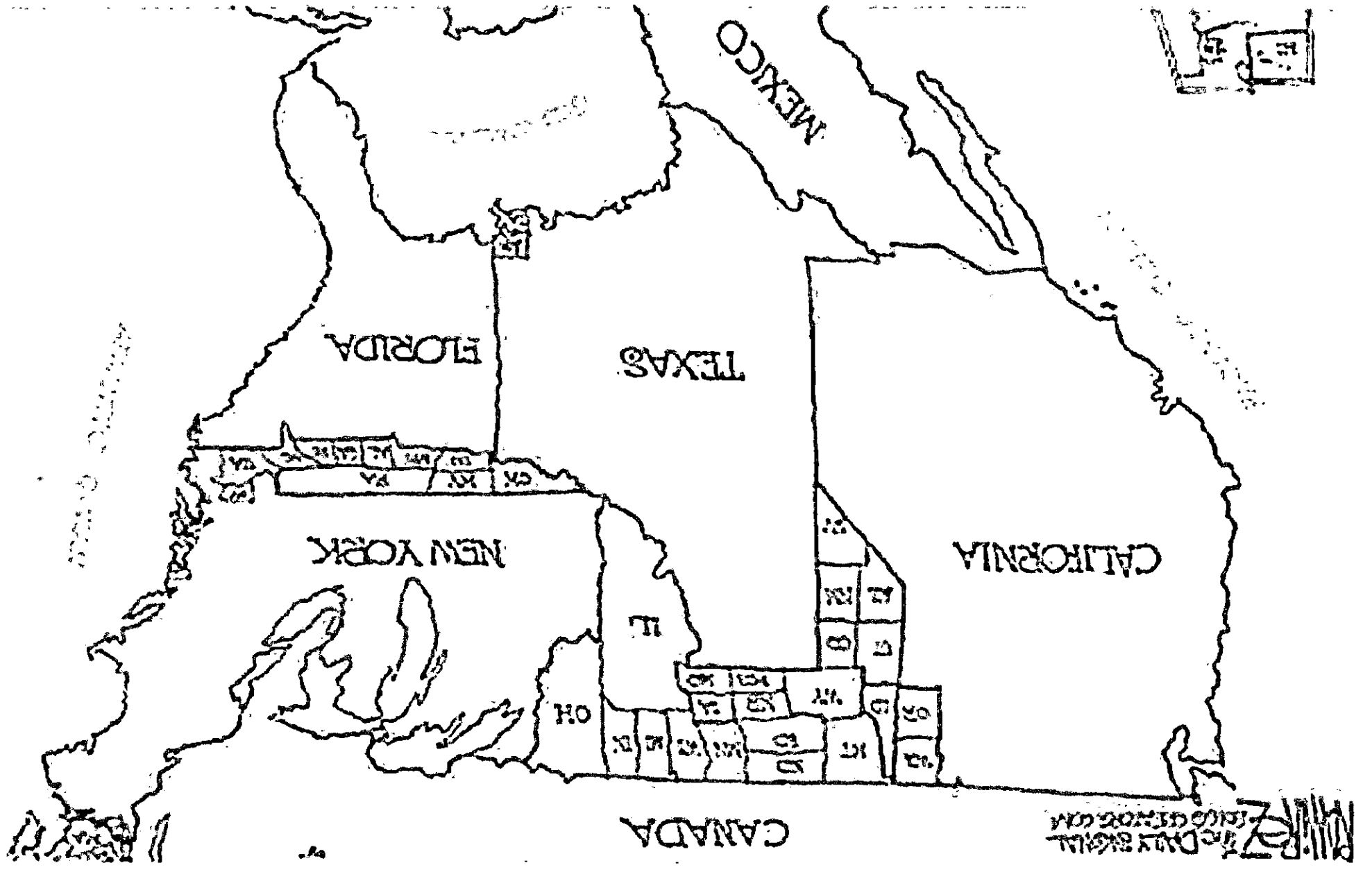
To conclude:

Alexander Hamilton – Federalist Paper 68

The EC was created so presidents would have “the esteem and confidence of the WHOLE Union, or of so considerable a portion of it as would be necessary.”

THE US ELECTION WITHOUT THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

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