



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-1196
401-222-2080

Donald L. Carcieri
Governor

July 2, 2008

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 14, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Rhode Island and Section 43-1-4 of the Rhode Island General Laws, I transmit, with my disapproval, 2008 H 7707, "An Act Relating to Elections."

This act would make Rhode Island a party to an agreement with other states to pledge electors to the presidential candidate receiving the majority of the popular vote.

This legislation attempts to eviscerate the Electoral College and subvert the Constitution of the United States.

Our Founding Fathers established a process by which the American people would elect a President and Vice President. Despite the cries from those who believe the current system is unjust, and that the only legitimate way to select a Commander-in-Chief is by direct election, no serious effort has been made to amend the Constitution to provide this "remedy."

The appropriate forum to change or eliminate the Electoral College is through a constitutional amendment to the United States Constitution. The state legislature should focus on legislative matters that are germane to our state and leave federal matters to our congressional delegation.

For these reasons, I disapprove of this legislation and respectfully urge your support of this veto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald L. Carcieri".

Donald L. Carcieri