

*For information on those issue committees that support or oppose the measures on the ballot at the November 3, 2020, election, go to the Colorado Secretary of State's elections center web site hyperlink for ballot and initiative information:*

<https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/Initiatives/InitiativesHome.html>

### **Arguments For Proposition 113**

- 1) A national popular vote for President advances the democratic principle of one person, one vote, and ensures that votes in every community count equally. The national popular vote for President could also encourage candidates to campaign in a way that addresses the concerns of voters in all 50 states. The current system places too much importance on just a few competitive states where candidates focus almost all of their attention and campaign efforts. Candidates should reach out to voters wherever they live and take positions on issues that affect all parts of the country. The national popular vote gives all voters an equal impact on the outcome of the election, regardless of where they live or whether their state's final vote count might be close.
- 2) The President of the United States should be the person who gets the most popular votes nationwide. Five times in our country's history, including twice in the last 20 years, a candidate has won the presidential election despite losing the popular vote. A "yes" vote on Proposition 113 is an important step toward making sure this cannot happen in the future. Recent history demonstrates that when the results are close in even a few states, it is easy for the Electoral College vote to not reflect the national popular vote.

### **Arguments Against Proposition 113**

- 1) Colorado should cast its electoral votes for the candidate who obtains the most votes in Colorado. If the agreement goes into effect, Colorado's presidential electors would be obligated to vote for whomever wins the national popular vote, even if that candidate did not win the majority of votes in the state. Further, a national popular vote may encourage candidates to focus their campaigns in large population centers where they can efficiently reach more voters. In this process, all Coloradans risk having the unique regional issues they care about lose out to the interests of a few large cities in a few large states.
- 2) This agreement attempts to sidestep the U.S. Constitution and could lead to disruptions in our electoral system. Rather than amend the U.S. Constitution to implement a true national popular vote, the compact relies on legal agreements between member states, which have different election requirements and policies, to ensure that their electors will vote the way the compact demands. In addition, in a close election run by 50 separate states, trying to determine who won the national popular vote could lead to recounts and litigation in every state, delaying results, causing confusion, and eroding confidence in our electoral system.