

Presidential General Election



The Electoral College

- When voters go to the polls on election day people think they are voting for a presidential candidate. They are not. In reality each person voted in his or her state for a slate of electors who were pledged to vote for one of the candidates.



What is the Electoral College system?

- 1. It is a unique way of choosing a President.
- 2. It has been around since our first President.
- 3. Each state has the same number of electors equaling the total number of senators and representatives in Congress

How The Electoral College Works!



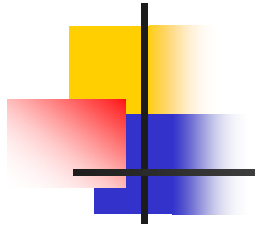
- 1. On Tuesday after the first Monday in November the people actually vote for electors not a future President.
- 2. Each states electors in December then choose how to use their vote for President and they vote in December. (Our President is not officially elected on election day)
- 3. Every state Except Maine an Nebraska use a “winner take all” method.

The Electoral Break Down!



- There are a total of 538 electoral votes!
- 435 Representatives
- 100 Senators
- 3 for the District of Columbia



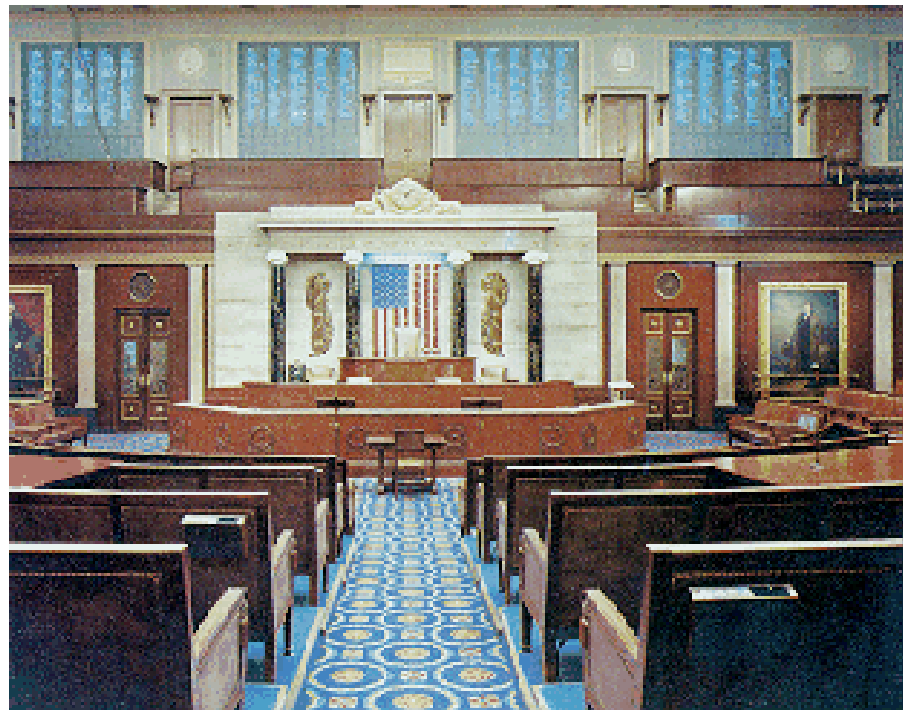


270

- votes are needed to win the election

No 270 you ask?

- Then the House of Representatives decides!



FLAWS

- 1) Unequal representation for large and small States.
- 2) Unpopular President could win (only need 11 States to win)
- 3) Electors could go against the people

