

**Rep. Nickie Monica Sponsors Legislation**  
**“Mr. President - Pay Attention to Louisiana”**  
**In Support Of The National Popular Vote Initiative**

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BATON ROUGE — Representative Nickie Monica (R - District 57) has introduced legislation to change the manner Louisiana selects its presidential electors and join with other states to implement a national popular vote system for the electoral college to follow.

The house bill would force presidential candidates to wage a nationwide campaign and court Louisiana voters rather than spending all their time, money and energy in just a few select states.

"Louisiana is ignored in general presidential elections," Monica said. "Candidates do not come to Louisiana and hear our concerns and needs. In 2008, candidates concentrated 99 percent of their general election visits on 16 states," continued Monica. "States like Louisiana, and two-thirds of the country, have become simply spectators in the election of the President."

As a result, issues important to Louisiana receive little or no attention. Monica said the bill would ensure that every vote will matter in every state in every presidential election.

Under the National Popular Vote legislation, which has been adopted by seven states and is under consideration in states all across the country, all electoral votes from enacting states would be awarded to the presidential candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The initiative is gaining national momentum and has already been enacted by jurisdictions possessing 74 electoral votes — 27% of the 270 necessary to activate the law (HI, IL, MA, MD, NJ, Washington state and District of Columbia).

The legislation only goes into effect when adopted by states with a majority of the electoral votes.

*The National Popular Vote Movement*

The National Popular Vote movement, which has gathered bi-partisan support throughout the country and endorsements from leading Republican and Democrat elected officials, would ensure the presidential candidate with the most votes wins and every vote counts. A major benefit of the National Popular Vote system is to eliminate the system of battleground states and fly over states that has plagued presidential campaigns for decades and rendered two-thirds of the country's voters irrelevant to the process of electing the President.

The winner-take-all rule, wherein all of a state's electoral votes go to the candidate who receives the most votes in that state, has permitted a candidate to win the presidency without winning the

most popular votes nationwide in four Presidential elections. A shift of 60,000 votes in Ohio in 2004 would have elected Kerry despite President Bush's nationwide lead in the popular vote of 3 million people.

Since 2006, National Popular Vote bills have been enacted by jurisdictions with a cumulative 74 electoral votes. Approval by Louisiana and other states that are considering the legislation would provide important momentum to the goal of reaching the 270 electoral votes that are needed to activate the law.

### *About Rep. Nickie Monica*

Nickie Monica worked for 20 years at Marathon Oil Refinery in Garyville. In 1995, Nickie was elected to the St. John the Baptist Parish Council, serving with distinction and helping lead the Insurance and Solid Waste Committees.

Four years later, Nickie was chosen by the people of St. John as their parish president and was overwhelmingly re-elected in 2003.

A native of Garyville, Monica and his wife Dawn live in LaPlace with their five children. The Monicas are members of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church.

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