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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of New York State

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF:
A.4422A/ Dinowitz
S.03149A/ Griffo

TO: **New York State Senate and New State Assembly**

DATE: **March 24, 2014**

SUBJECT: ***An act to amend the election law in relation to enacting the agreement among the states to elect the President by national popular vote.***

The League of Women Voters of New York State supports the above referenced legislation (A.4422A/ S. 03149A) as a means to ensure that the will of the majority of voters who participated in the election of the President is reflected.

A federal constitutional amendment is not needed to change state laws that currently use the winner-take-all rule to award electoral votes. Nationwide popular election of the President can be implemented through the use of an interstate agreement among member states to award their electoral votes for president to the candidate that receives a majority of the popular vote cast within all 50 states including the District of Columbia. The proposed state legislation would come into effect only when it has been enacted, in identical form, by states possessing a majority (270) of the 538 electoral votes. It would ensure that each presidential vote cast has the exact same weight throughout the United States, and that presidential campaigns are waged nationwide (instead of targeting "swing" states and ignoring states like New York). This interstate agreement would ensure that the will of the majority of voters is reflected in the Presidential election.

For the above reasons, the League of Women Voters of New York State strongly urges your support of A.4422A /S.03149A.