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Over the last few months, we had great success with our presence at two national conventions: the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) annual conference in Orlando, Florida, and the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) annual summit in Indianapolis, Indiana. We were able to effectively connect with numerous current and former state legislators from across the country, introduce the merits of our association, and gain some new members.

At these national meetings, we were privileged to join our friends at [Save Our States](#). For over 20 years, this highly respected organization has been on the front lines, nationally defending the Founder's Electoral College process which, unfortunately, is being insincerely discredited by a few factions.

The Electoral College is a fundamental part of our American system of balanced federalism. It is a reflection of, and protection for, state sovereignty. Today, each state holds its own election to choose its presidential electors, and any direct national election would lead to the elimination of state sovereignty in elections. The reasons for the Electoral College are ultimately practical and even more relevant today than they were two centuries ago.

By 1828, nearly every state held an election to choose its presidential electors. In this system of popular voting, state lines are particularly important. Any kind of direct national popular vote would require national—not state—control of the election.

State authorities in one state have no power to oversee elections in other states. With the Electoral College, mistakes or malfeasance in one state remains contained within that state, doing away with the need for any kind of nationwide recount. A national direct election would wipe away these protections, increasing the incentives for widespread

fraud and a myriad of problems and consequences. Naturally, the only answer would be greater control of elections by the national government.

The Electoral College contains elections within the states, allowing states to remain in charge of the process. This also means that only candidates with a national focus, not a regional one, can win the presidency. This forces political parties to build larger, more national, and more diverse coalitions. The benefits and effects of the Electoral College are equitable for all the states—and are more important now than ever.

Read our latest Issue Brief [here](#).



Our booth at the ALEC Conference with former State Legislators Alan Hays, Jim Kallinger, and Steve Precourt

James Kallinger, President  
National Association of Former State Legislators