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## **Electoral College is still relevant**

By Steve Bakke  December 20, 2020



The USA Today supplement to the December 11 News-Press e-edition featured an article titled “Here’s a primer on how the electoral College works.” The word “primer” implies essential, foundational information about a topic. A couple details regarding the continued relevance of the Electoral College could have been better explained. I’ll pick just one.

Each state’s representation on the Electoral College is unbalanced relative to that state’s population. Relying on relative population to allocate Electoral College representation didn’t give the Founders what they desired for achieving the proper balance of influence among diverse states. Their expressed goal was to guard against population centers dominating the selection of our presidents as well as legislation.

The Founders didn’t want to minimize the needs of states that have large area but lower population, often referred to as “flyover” country.” Those states contain much of our natural resources and food production. For example, a voter in Queens, New York can’t be expected to give rapt attention to the interests of a farmer in Iowa. Without this electoral system, no presidential candidate would bother seeing a corn stock or an Iowa hog.

The Founders’ speeches, letters, and debates demonstrate their full intentions.