

The Record: Letters, June 13, 2011

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THE RECORD

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Proposal would

disenfranchise voters

Regarding Newsday writer Bob Keeler's "For 2012, we can solve the Electoral College problem" (Other Views, June 10):

Keeler seems to be under the misconception that all citizens of the United States want to be ruled by the citizens of a few states.

Established as a compromise between election of the president by the Congress or by the people directly, the Electoral College allows states with smaller populations to have a say in who is elected. Yes, there are times when the left or the right may not be happy with the results, but at least every citizen and every state had an equal opportunity to be heard.

Having the Electoral College votes of a state reflect only the winner of the overall National Popular Vote, as Keeler proposes, would disenfranchise voters as their votes would be completely ignored and overwritten. This would be one of the unintended consequences of Keeler's proposal.

I find it interesting that he is proposing that we change the way the Electoral College votes rather than eliminating it completely, thus doing an end run around the Constitution. Although Keeler seems to think being on the "winning" side is most important, I believe it is more important that all voices be heard and be represented.

Natalie M. Dengler

River Edge, June 10

Breaking grip

