**CE.5f –Notes Electoral College**

**Electoral College**

* Process for electing the President and Vice President
  + To win – Candidate needs to win most **electoral votes**
  + Popular vote (the votes of people) does not determine winner-
  + 2000 Al Gore won the popular vote
  + 2000 George W Bush won the electoral vote
  + 2000 George W Bush won the presidential election
* How it works:
  + Candidate with the most votes in a state – wins the state
    - Winner-take-all – (except in Nebraska)
      * Favors a Two Party System
  + Each state is worth a certain amount of points
    - Points are based on number of State congressmen + Senators - larger population state has more votes
      * State with a lot of people = a lot of pts (CA) -55
      * State with a few people = few pts (ND) - 3
        + Virginia = 13 pts. (11 reps + 2 Senators)

- How to win - 270 Electoral Votes is guaranteed win

- if no candidate wins a majority of electoral votes , the US.

House of Representatives will vote to elect the President

* Problems:

1. Candidates only care about states with large populations
   * (TX, CA, NY)
2. Democrats that live in states that always vote Republican
   * Why vote democrat in Alabama? Can’t win.
     + Result: Less People Vote