**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