

September 17, 2024

Dear Governors,

On this day in 1787, our founders put aside partisan differences and ratified the US Constitution. Included in Article 2, is the unique concept of the Electoral College.

As tens of millions of our fellow Americans cast their ballots in the weeks ahead, one of the candidates will ultimately receive the majority of Electoral College votes.

The voters in each state choose electors. It is the responsibility of all state Governors to confirm which candidate's electors have been chosen by the voters to serve in the Electoral College. This responsibility afforded to the Governors is known as the preparation of Certificates of Ascertainment of Appointment of Electors. These certificates will state the number of votes for the winning candidate and will name the slate of Electors.

We write as bipartisan former Governors with an eye to December 11th. This is the deadline for issuing and sending Certificates of Ascertainment to the National Archives. This is six days before the Electoral College will meet in state capitals across our nation.

While there is much to debate on the campaign trail, we expect all candidates and the American people will agree that this time-honored process during our post-election period is not open for debate. It is simply a ministerial and administrative duty.

We hope you agree and are prepared to certify the appointment of electors and also reject any request to delay certification.

Sincerely,

George Allen (R-VA)

Roy Barnes (D-GA)

Jeb Bush (R-FL)

Chet Culver (D-IA)

Jim Douglas (R-VT)

Parris Glendening (D-MD)

John Kasich (R-OH)

Ronnie Musgrove (D-MS)

Roy Romer (D-CO)

Ted Strickland (D-OH)

Bruce Babbitt (D-AZ)

Jim Blanchard (D-MI)

Tom Corbett (R-PA)

Gray Davis (D-CA)

Dave Freudenthal (D-WY)

Jim Hodges (D-SC)

Scott McCallum (R-WI)

Bill Ritter (D-CO)

Mark Schweiker (R-PA)