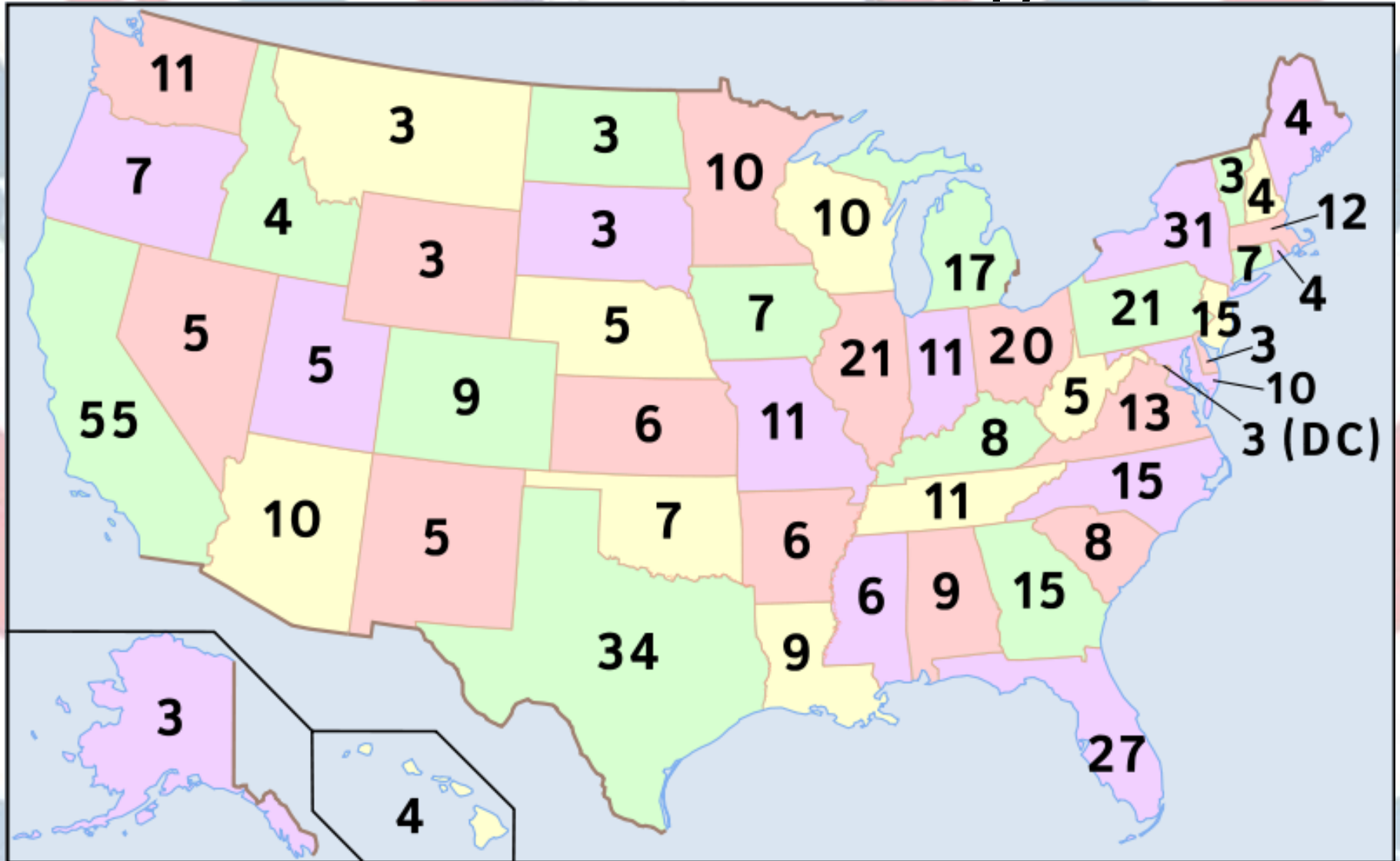


A stylized, high-contrast portrait of Abraham Lincoln, rendered in a halftone or stippled style. The portrait is centered and occupies the middle ground. The background consists of a repeating pattern of the American flag's stars and stripes, with the stars appearing as white five-pointed shapes on a blue background, and the stripes as alternating red and white diagonal bands. The overall composition is patriotic and formal.

The Electoral College

The Electoral College

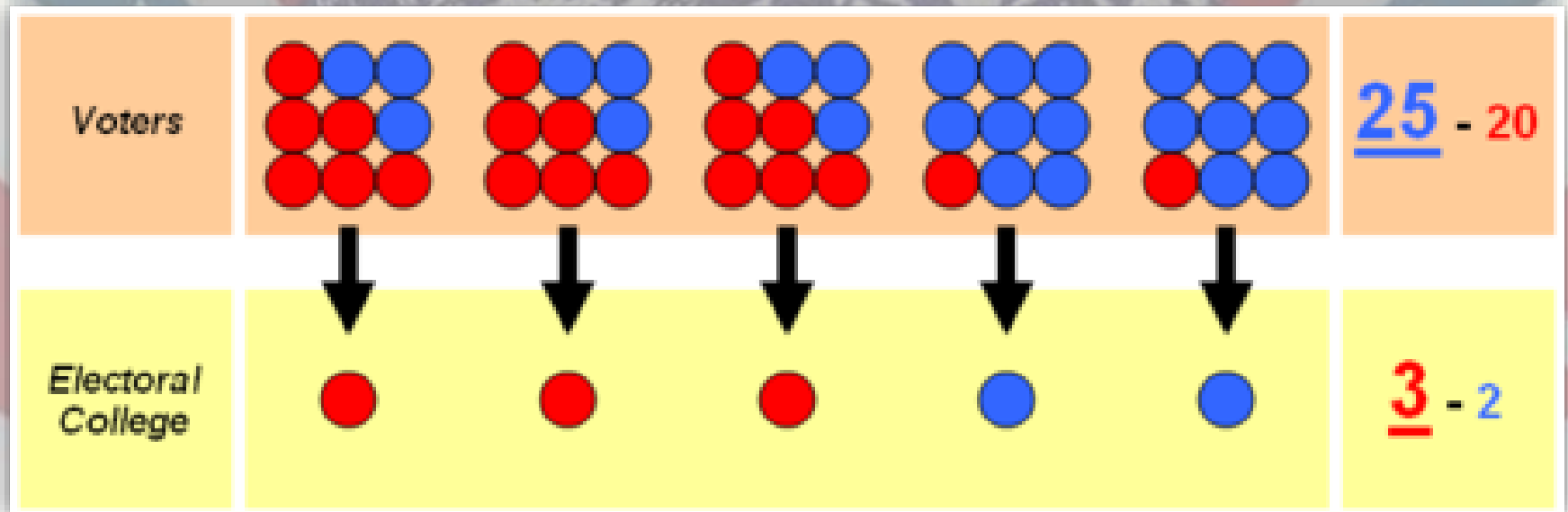


Criticisms of the Electoral College

- Unequal weight of votes → amplified voting power to voters in states with small populations
- The vote of an individual living in a state with three electoral votes is proportionally more influential than the vote of an individual living in a state with a large number of electoral votes
- Ensures that candidates pay attention to “swing-states” → not firmly rooted in a party

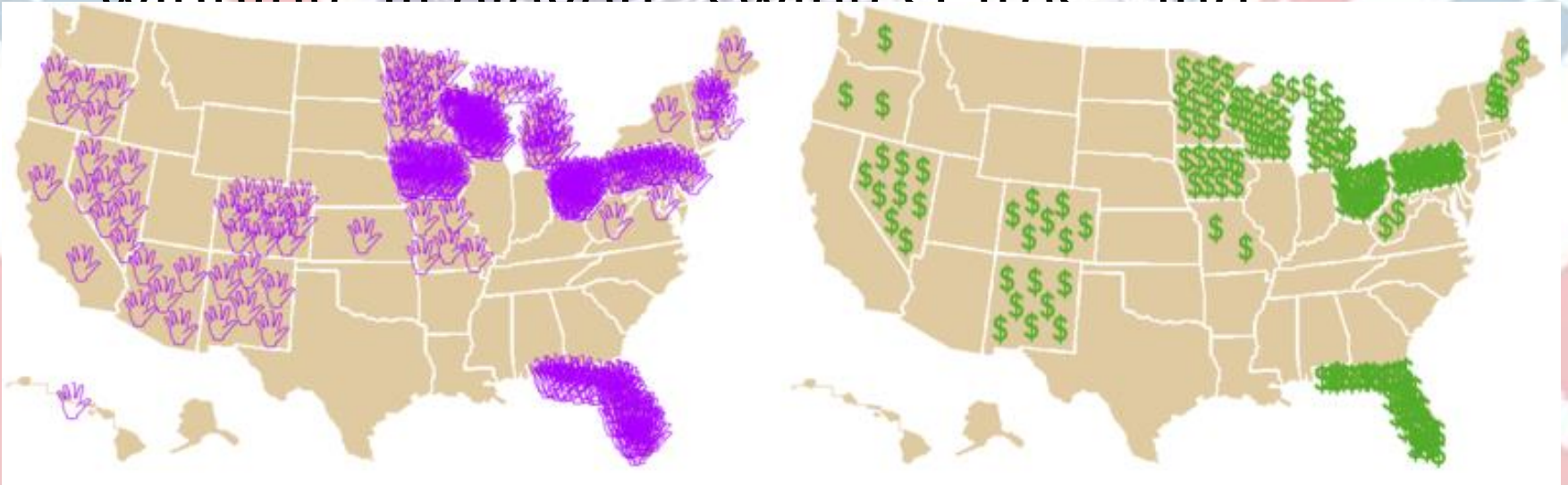
Criticisms of the Electoral College

- Losing the popular vote → 1824, 1876, 1888, 2000, 2016



Criticisms of the Electoral College

- Focus on large “swing states” → it is theoretically possible to win the election by winning all eleven “swing states” and

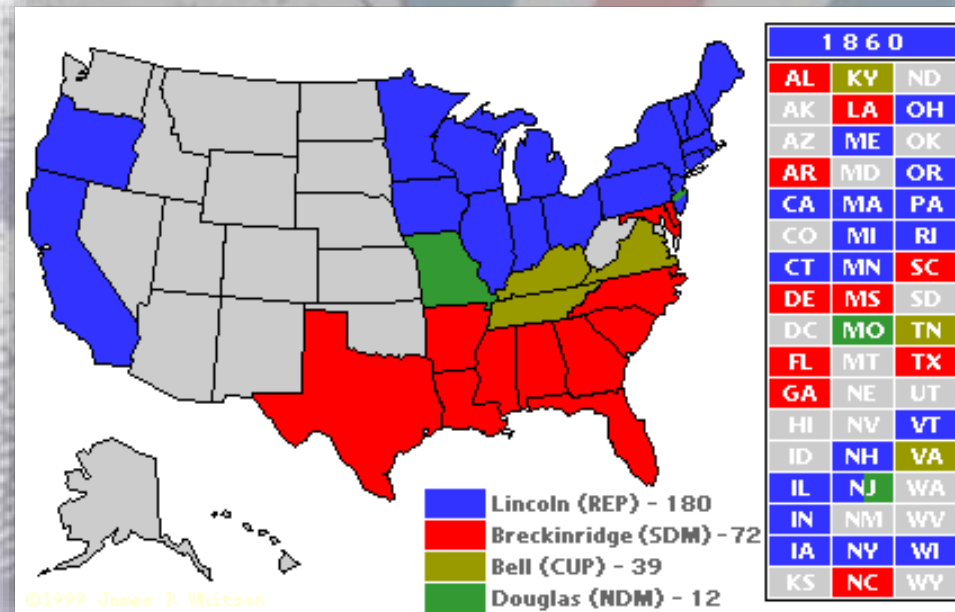


votes

- 2000 & 2004 → 11 states gave 111 votes to Bush and 160 votes to Gore/Kerry

Support for the Electoral College

- Requires a distribution of popular support to win
- Candidate cannot count on winning the election based solely on a heavy concentration of votes in a few areas → avoids sectionalism → Lincoln victory



Support for the Electoral College

- Maintains the federal character of the nation
- Enhances status of minority groups → encourages candidates to court a wide variety of minorities and special interests to gain the edge
- Encourages stability in the two-party system
- Isolation of election problems → popular vote would encourage voter fraud
- Maintains separation of powers → direct election could undermine the legitimacy of the other branches (leg. and jud.) if pres. candidate wins in landslide = “divine mandate from the people”