

News Release

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INTEREST IN ELECTORAL COLLEGE SURPASSES YEARS PAST

RICHMOND, VA – The 2008 Electoral College has drawn unprecedented interest from the general public. In order to accommodate as many Virginians as possible, the Electoral College proceedings will be broadcast live in House Room D and Senate Room B in the General Assembly Building. The doors to House Room D and Senate Room B will open at 11 a.m.

The Electoral College will convene Monday, December 15, 2008, at noon in the House Chamber of the Capitol. Access to the House Chamber and gallery is restricted to electors, their guests and invited dignitaries (ticket is required for entry).

The Electoral College elects the president and vice president of the United States. The Founding Fathers created the Electoral College as a compromise between having the president elected by popular vote and the president appointed by the U.S. Senate. Virginia has 13 electoral votes. The date, time and location of the College are set by law.

The public should be advised that there is no parking on the Capitol Square grounds. Pay parking decks are nearby, as well as two-hour metered spaces on the street. A wheelchair-accessible ramp and door is located at the Ninth Street entrance of the General Assembly Building. The General Assembly Building is located at 910 Capitol Street. For more information on parking please visit <u>http://legis.state.va.us/1_vis_guide/visit_during.html</u>