The Very American Principles Behind Concurrent Majorities
(And the Electoral College and the U.S. Senate)

Tyranny of the Majority is a problem that must be considered with the adoption of any new public policy.

We address it with basic structural elements like separation of powers, checks and balances, the electoral collage and a U.S. Senate which provides two senators for each state, independent of population considerations. Super-majorities are designed for the same purpose.

When you think of "concurrent majority" think of "concurrence" (agreement, meeting of the minds).

(From Wikipedia)
"Concurrent majority refers in general to the concept of preventing majorities from oppressing minorities by allowing various minority groups veto power over laws. The most vocal proponents of the theory have tended to be minority groups, such as farmers in an industrial society, or people of color in a predominately white society. The concurrent majority is intended to prevent tyranny of the majority that probably might otherwise occur in an unlimited democracy."

"Prior to the American Revolution, all governments were controlled by small minorities of ruling elites; large parts of the population were completely disfranchised, even in countries like Switzerland whose governments - local, regional, and federal - were constitutionally democratic by modern standards. The conception of government that materialized during the separation of the United States from England marked movement away from such control towards wider enfranchisement. The problem of tyranny then became a problem of limiting the power of a majority."

"Even so, the widening of the franchise caused concern. The framers of the United States Constitution, even while reiterating that the people held national sovereignty, worked to ensure that a simple majority of voters could not infringe upon the liberty of the rest of the people. One protection from this was separation of powers, such as bicameralism in the Congress and the three "separate" branches of the central government - legislative, executive, and judicial. Having two houses was intended to serve as a brake on popular movements that might threaten particular groups, with the House representing the common people and the Senate defending the interests of the state governments. The House was to be elected by popular vote, while Senators were appointed by state legislators. Executive veto, the implied power of judicial review by the Supreme Court, the possibility of state nullification of central government laws, outright secession by states, and armed rebellion of citizens all created further obstacles to overbearing majority rule."