

Please vote NO on SB 343. Ranked Choice Voting has a long history of being passed and then repealed. Peer reviewed studies show that it can result in spoilers in 15% of elections or more, and on average over 10% of ballots are not counted in the deciding round. The number of wasted votes is consistently higher for communities of color. Studies show only marginal improvement in outcomes compared to the current primary and general election system -- RCV and the current system came in 41st and 42nd respectively in one study comparing voting methods. Ranked Choice Voting does not seem worth the time, effort, and money to change systems -- when we change, let's do it right.

STAR Voting for Oregon (HB 3250) seems much more promising: there's no vote-splitting, strong underdog candidates are not disadvantaged, there are no wasted votes, and ballots can be tabulated locally. It's really important to me to open the field to more people willing to serve, and to have our votes feel more relevant.

Please vote NO on SB 343. Thank you for your service, and your time and consideration.
Laura M. Ohanian