

RE: Support Statewide Ranked Choice Voting, HB 2004  
House Committee on Rules

**March 11, 2023**

Chair Fahey, Vice Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice Chair Kropf, and members of the House Committee on Rules,

My name is Dan Keeley and I live and farm in Saint Paul, Oregon. I am writing to testify in strong support for HB 2004, which will help establish ranked choice voting statewide and help ensure voters have a more nuanced and less emotional input into our elections..

In our current elections, candidates in crowded races are consistently winning with less than a majority leaving the elected officials with minority and little mandate. Fear of splitting the vote also leads to voter frustration and cynicism. It's clear that our elections aren't serving voters or candidates as best as they could. Ranked choice voting is a reasonable improvement to our elections that I think will lead to elected bodies being more effective and less polarized for Oregonians from every community. I also think the system will reduce the emotional "horse race" attitude of those watching the results on the news. In this case boring is good.

I am not alone in my support of this bill. This legislation is supported by a coalition of over 30 organizations, including my Grange, Maplewood #662, culturally-specific organizations, rural communities and organizations, youth-empowering organizations, and good government groups.

Ranked choice voting is a proven solution and Oregon's next step as a leader in election reform. Please support HB 2004 and pass it out of committee.

Thank you,

Dan Keeley, President

Maplewood Grange #662