

Submitter: Alex Polikoff
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB2004

To Chair Fahey and Rules Committee Members,

I write in support of HB2004. As someone who collected many signatures to allow Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) to be on the ballot in Benton County, I can report that most of the people I talked to were dissatisfied with how we currently elect our officials and were hungry for a better way to vote and have their voices heard. The majority favored RCV when informed of what it is, as evidenced by the successful passing of the ballot measure in Benton County.

As a former candidate for the Oregon Legislature, it is clear to me that RCV would allow voters to feel confident their vote is not wasted no matter who they choose to vote for. Not only would it empower voters in Oregon, it would be vital in cultivating new ideas and candidacies outside of those that exist within the two major parties.

Finally, RCV guarantees that whenever more than two candidates are competing for office, whoever is elected is preferred by the majority of the electorate and not the minority; that truly represents the will of the people. Freedom to choose and true representation – to me, that is what democracy is all about. I urge you to support HB2004 and provide that gift to all Oregonians.

Thank you for your consideration.

Alex Polikoff
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