March 14, 2023

Committee Members

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I DO NOT CONSENT TO HB2004!!!

This bill will ELIMINATE ONE VOTE PER CITIZEN and suppress my First Amendment right to free speech. By authorizing cities, counties, metropolitan service districts, local government, and local service districts to use ranked-choice voting to nominate or elect candidates for relevant offices, you will be suppressing my vote and voice. Under ranked-choice voting, voters rank candidates in order of preference. If no candidate receives a majority of first-choice votes in the first round of voting, the last-place finisher is eliminated, and his votes are reallocated to the voter's second-choice candidate. This process continues until one candidate receives a majority of votes.

By reallocating votes, you will be SUPPRESSING CITIZENS VOTES and VOICE on who they chose to represent us and it's against the Constitution. The mere suggestion of these bills is a SLAP in the face to every Oregonian and trampling on our RIGHTS!

The Court has also recognized the Constitution guarantees that "free and uncorrupted choice" shall be afforded to all in the decision of who should lead them. In the first instance, this general rule applies to secure one's vote, such that a legally cast vote is actually counted, and not discarded, cancelled, nullified, or otherwise spoiled. Thus, the Supreme Court has stated: "[t]o refuse to count and return the vote as cast [is] as much an infringement of that personal right as to exclude the voter from the polling place." United States v. Classic, 313 U.S. 299, 315, 61 S. Ct. 1031, 1037-38, 85 L.Ed. 1368, 1377-78 (1941).

"There is more to the right to vote than the right to mark a piece of paper and drop it in a box or the right to pull a lever in a voting booth. The right to vote includes the right to have the ballot counted." Reynolds, supra at 555, n. 29. And counted properly. United States v. Mosley, 238 U.S. 383, 386 (1915).

We the People and your Employer demand that HB2004 CANNOT be allowed to pass!

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