

Submitter: George Freemole
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB2004

I support ranked choice voting (rcv) as the voting method for Oregonians because it provides the opportunity for more candidates to participate in elections, and thereby for voters to hear more voices, issues and viewpoints during campaigns and elections. RCV's increased access for candidates who wish to stand for office, and more choices for electors is vital to our democracy.

RCV has been criticized as being too complicated to understand or use, but it is not. It is an innovation, which will require some adaptation, but it is a straight-forward step-by-step process. However, in adding a few more steps to the electoral process it allows voters make several choices for each position instead of one. This enables voters to express their will more fully instead of settling for the lesser of the only two "evils" they may feel they face in an election. Perhaps more importantly, as a process RCV insures that the winning candidate for any particular office is elected by an actual majority of voters. RCV does not allow a plurality of voters to masquerade as the will of the majority of electors.

Please support HB 2004 to strengthen democracy and representation in Oregon.
Thank you.

George M. Freemole