

Submitter: Anthony Martins  
On Behalf Of: self  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HB2004

I am a firm believer in upgrading our voting systems here in the USA to best match the latest in election science. Yes, plurality is broken. However, RCV is not the way. It does not solve the spoiler effect. To say it's upgrading from DOS to Windows 95, when we have a modern operating system available, would be giving it too much credit. In our modern days of Tweets and quick information, I find it frustrating to try and explain this briefly, so I urge my representatives to please do their homework before voting on this bill; and I urge supporters of RCV to do the same and put their good-faith efforts behind a more mathematically-sound solution. (Seriously, I truly love you for what you're doing, but let's replace "worst" with "good" instead of "still-bad.") As a high school math teacher, I promise the math is understandable to a layperson, given proper effort. The Equal Vote Coalition released a beautiful, 7-minute explainer on this topic:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nu4eTUafuSc&t=299s> In addition to the points made therein, RCV just creates undue mental strain with a large number of candidates. Ordering several individuals by preference just takes much more mental effort than rating several individuals 0-5 (like on Amazon). Ballots are prone to errors and being invalidated. Counting votes on the back end is also more time-consuming than almost any other alternative voting method, and also error-prone. Normally, I wouldn't want the perfect to be the enemy of the good, but switching to any different voting system will require reeducating the populace, and it seems best to just do that once. Let's exert less effort for a better solution. I would fully support score voting, approval voting, and especially STAR Voting; but not what we have now, and not RCV. It *still* splits the vote. Thank you so much for your time and careful consideration in this important matter.