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On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB2004

"Why should I vote? The person I like is in the middle. They don't have a chance and my vote will just be thrown away."

How often have you heard this?

Polarization, disengagement with the system and frustration by voters is a problem in Oregon.

Having said that, Ranked Choice Voting (RCV,) although a good start, does not deliver on all of it's promises. Oregonians should have the chance to choose the system that they want - which may be RCV or may be something else.

Right now there is an initiative, IP-11, that would allow Oregonians the opportunity to choose STAR voting instead. Signatures have already been collected. STAR voting eliminates many of the concerns and problems that RCV has.

Although Ranked Choice Voting wants to decrease polarization this doesn't happen in practice as noted in this article from San Francisco State University:
<https://news.sfsu.edu/archive/news-story/study-ranked-choice-elections-dont-reduce-polarized-voting.html>

RCV eliminates "spoilers" is another false claim as was seen in the Alaska race which flipped the area from red to blue.

RCV requires the voting to be tabulated at a central area, this is a concern for security as any time that you have something centralized there is a risk. That's why the computer people that work for the State of Oregon encourage non-centralized systems.

It would be wrong to take away Oregonians choices and dismiss what some Oregonians are already saying they want. With people already collecting signatures for IP-11 we have a viable alternative to RCV and we should let the voters decide.