

HOUSE BILL 2004 RANKED CHOICE VOTING

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IT'S TIME FOR RANKED CHOICE VOTING STATEWIDE



BETTER REPRESENTATION

Ranked choice voting improves representation – in cities that adopted ranked choice voting, women¹ and candidates of color² have won 24% more races compared to non-ranked choice voting races.



VOTERS LIKE IT

Ranked choice voting allows voters to honestly express their values. Overwhelming majorities of voters both like and understand ranked choice voting.³



PROVEN SUCCESS

Used or adopted in over 60 jurisdictions across the U.S., including four in our own state, ranked choice voting is Oregon's next step as a leader in election reform.

HB 2004

HB 2004 creates ranked choice voting (RCV) in Oregon by 1) establishing RCV elections for all statewide and federal offices, for both primary and general elections, 2) providing a local option for cities and counties to use RCV elections, and 3) helping to ensure standardized guidance and resources for county clerks. HB 2004 does not create an open primary nor does it include state legislative races.

HB 2004 paves the way for an effective, multilingual, and culturally responsive statewide voter education campaign to ensure all voters in communities across the state understand and are comfortable with RCV ballots.



Urban League of Portland



HOUSE BILL 2004

RANKED CHOICE VOTING

	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice
Candidate A			
Candidate B			
Candidate C			

THE PROBLEM

In elections across the U.S. and here in Oregon, we see voters pressured to vote “strategically” instead of voting for candidates they support, increasingly toxic and expensive campaigns, and multi-candidate races which result in the majority of voters having voted for someone who lost. **It’s clear that our elections aren’t serving voters or candidates.**

RANKED CHOICE VOTING: A WIN FOR VOTERS & CANDIDATES ALIKE



More Reflective Representation

RCV will allow candidates to run for office without fear of splitting the vote, paving the way for more first time candidates and candidates from diverse backgrounds. Cities that have switched to RCV elections have seen more women, people of color, working class people, and young people not only run for office, but win.⁴



Increased Voter Satisfaction

RCV ensures that voters have more power to express their preferences and vote for candidates whose values they share. By allowing voters to rank candidates, their vote becomes more meaningful, has a greater impact, and, ultimately, leads to an outcome they are more satisfied with.



A Statewide Solution

At a time when democracy is on the line across the nation, RCV provides a simple solution to create more inclusive and equitable elections for Oregonians from every community. With more than 60 jurisdictions across the U.S. using RCV, resources for multilingual and accessible voter education are at our fingertips.

RCV gives voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference: first choice, second choice, third choice, and so on. Ballots are counted in rounds, in which candidates with the fewest votes are eliminated and ballots are automatically counted using a voter’s next choice until there’s a majority winner. Simply put, RCV means candidates must earn broad support from voters by appealing to a diverse range of communities.

- ¹ Represent Women, [In Ranked Choice Elections, Women WIN](#)
- ² National Civic League, [Ranked Choice Voting: The New Norm Across the Bay Area](#)
- ³ FairVote, [Exit Surveys: Voters Evaluate Ranked Choice Voting After First Use](#)
- ⁴ FairVote, [Research and Data on RCV in Practice](#)

QUESTIONS?

Contact Sol Mora, Oregon Ranked Choice Voting Coalition Lead
sol@coalitioncommunitiescolor.org