

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for providing the public the opportunity to testify on SB #137. I wish to express my sincere opposition to this bill for several reasons.

1) Voters from all demographics and political blocs not only use Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) effectively, but also the vast majority of those who have used it like it and find it simple. Arguing that Ohioans are somehow less capable of "ranking" than Alaskans, New Yorkers, or Virginians is an insult to our state's residents.

2) The bill is a violation of home rule, plain and simple.

3) Political polarization and erosion of public trust in our institutions is a major concern in our state and country. As evidenced by the special election in August 2023 seeking a supermajority for citizen led initiatives, the subsequent enshrining of abortion rights, and the passing of legalized marijuana, Ohio constituents have repeatedly told Ohio's law makers that they don't feel represented in the decision-making process. Seeing that marijuana legislation continues to be tabled, they have a strong argument. Further consider SB #137, and the end game feels like further disrespect to voters.

As a moderate, please do not ban RCV. It's our only hope of restoring sanity in elections, and hopefully stems the mass exodus of moderate representation in our government.

Thank You,

Kaleigh S. Brown
Ohio Resident