

Dear Members of the Ohio State Senate,

I am writing to strongly oppose Senate Bill 63, which seeks to penalize Ohio localities that choose to use **Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)**. This bill would take away a fair and effective voting method that many communities worldwide have successfully used for decades. There is no legitimate reason to restrict this option, and doing so would directly attack **local control, voter choice, and democracy itself**.

Why Ranked Choice Voting Should Be Protected

1. Local Control Matters

- Ohio is a **Home Rule State**, meaning that cities, counties, and townships have the right to decide how to run their elections. If a community wants to use Ranked Choice Voting, the state should not interfere or punish them for doing so.

2. A Better Reflection of Voter Choice

- In traditional elections, voters often feel forced to choose between the **"lesser of two evils."** RCV allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference, ensuring that winners have broader support rather than just a small percentage of votes.

3. RCV is Tested and Proven

- Ranked Choice Voting is **not a new idea**. It has been successfully used in cities and states across the U.S., as well as in other countries, for many years. It **reduces negative campaigning, encourages more diverse candidates, and ensures that votes are not wasted**.

4. A Stronger Democracy for Ohio

- As Ohio's population becomes more diverse, we need a voting system that represents **all** voices. RCV allows for **more competition, more accountability, and fairer elections**. Limiting our voting options only weakens democracy.

The Bottom Line

Senate Bill 63 is an unnecessary overreach that would strip local communities of their ability to choose the best voting method for their residents. **There is no reason to take away options that give voters a stronger voice.**

I urge you to **vote against SB 63** and protect the rights of Ohioans to choose how they elect their leaders. Please stand for **local control, voter choice, and a fair democracy**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Holli Gray-Luring

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