

Thank you for this opportunity to support Rank Choice Voting and oppose SB 63.

Rank Choice voting violates the spirit of Ohioans' right to self-government through home rule. It ensures that candidates win with support from a majority of voters. It mitigates the "spoiler effect" and rewards more positive, more issues-focused campaigning.

RCV strengthens winning candidates because election winners know they have won a majority of support.

Voters - including Republicans- like and understand RCV. For example 80% of Alaska & Utah found RCV simple and easy after using it. A majority of Virginia Republicans who used RCV in the 2022 primaries said they preferred RCV.

Five Ohio cities used RCV in the last century before repeal efforts were led by corrupt politicians and party bosses. The Ohio Supreme Court ruled in 1923 that Ohio municipalities and charter counties have a right to use RCV.

Our country's Founders warned against two-party factionalism that evolved from plurality wins elections. SB 63 is against the consensus our Founders envisioned.

RCV has been upheld as "one person, one vote" every time it has been legally challenged.

As the League of Women Voters explains, RCV actually upholds "one person, one vote" *better* than plurality-wins elections because your vote is more likely to help elect a winner instead of being wasted.

Ranked d Choice Voting does not

*Favor certain parties over others.

It guarantees whoever winds does so with the mandate of a majority backing them.

*Throw out votes - Voters are free to rank as many or as few candidates as they like.

Votes are only thrown out under our current system when a candidate wins with less than 50% of the votes.

*Too costly - In Maine the cost was less than 8 cents per voter. 80% of Ohio voting districts have this capacity.

Ranked Choice Voting does

*Give each voter the freedom to vote for their true first choice without fear that such a vote will help the candidate they like least

*Give candidates the freedom to run for office without fear of being labeled a "spoiler" for a stronger candidate from the same part of the political spectrum.

*Attract more candidates to run for office.

*Attract voters who feel voting doesn't give them a voice.

Janice Flahiff 2032 Lehman Ave Toledo, OH 43611

