

March 23, 2025
RE: Opposition of S.B. 63

Dear Chairperson Roegner, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and Senators of the General Government Committee;

My Uncle Bill grew up at 272 West Perry Street in Tiffin in the 1920s and 30s, and on Election Days when he was a youngster, his pops would come home from the family-owned grocery store and ask, "Did your mother vote today?" If she had, my granddad would head off to the polling place to make sure he could cancel her vote. That's how it worked. There were two choices: this or that. Ninety years later, there have been no improvements. There is still only this or that, and it should not be that way.

I have been following Ranked Choice Voting for over a decade and wondered how Ohio could be next in using this effective tool for electoral democracy. Imagine my surprise when I learned that The Ohio Supreme Court ruled on March 6, 1923, the year my Uncle Bill was born, that Ohio municipalities and charter counties have a **RIGHT** to use the Hare system or ranked choice voting.

Senate Bill 63 would not only take **AWAY** proportional representation under the **HOME RULE** amendment to the **OHIO Constitution** but also penalize municipalities who choose to use it. Why? Why would you want to take away choices from Ohioans?

I don't simply want Ranked Choice Voting for myself; I champion it for all my fellow Ohioans, whether or not they live in a municipality or charter county. Even if proportional representation is new for them today, tomorrow, I want them to have the opportunity to vote for MORE than THIS or THAT.

My name is Roberta Grenerth. I was born and raised in Ohio and am a lifelong resident. I am a professional interpretive naturalist and living history interpreter, and for the past 11 seasons, I have been a volunteer organizer of our independent farmers' market in downtown Findlay.

I invite you to visit the market for a demonstration of how easy, participatory, and definitive Ranked Choice Voting is. We'll use locally grown asparagus, rhubarb, apples, and carrots. Would you rather have pie? Jam? No problem. Ranked Choice Voting offers CHOICE.

If my farmers' market only had two vendors, bison and cupcakes, it would not be well attended. If those vendors offer more variety and we bring in others with different products, we can be on our way to a robust market for the community.

Ohioans understand multiple choices and make those decisions every day.

Sincerely,



Roberta Grenerth
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