

March 24, 2025

Hi,

I am a resident of Columbus, OH who is in support of rank choice voting. Please oppose SB 63. Rank choice voting is a much more fair and incorruptible system. People in general are over the repeated manner in which OH government is not fulfilling their side of the democratic process by refusing to implement initiatives Ohioans have clearly demonstrated they support via vote. The old system of "Democrat vs. Republican" is corrupt and imbalanced, and folks on all sides of the spectrum are out of patience for it. Make our system work better and appease your constituents by representing them as they clearly are asking to be. A few key pieces of info:

- Banning RCV at the local level threatens the Home Rule Authority granted by the Ohio Constitution for local governments to make decisions based on their local needs and not a one-size-fits-all approach dictated by State Government.
- RCV strengthens winning candidates. Election winners can lead with confidence because they've won a majority of support. Some state parties like Virginia Republicans use RCV to elect stronger nominees with broader appeal.
- RCV = majority rule and improved elections: RCV means 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. Election winners can lead with confidence because they've won a majority of support. Some state parties like Virginia Republicans use RCV to elect stronger nominees with broader appeal.
- Voters – including Republicans – like and understand RCV: Over 80% of voters in 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.
- RCV is a 100-year-old Ohio-grown voting system: 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.
- Ohioans – including conservatives – support Home Rule and small government: Classic conservatives believe Home Rule for local self-government is sacred because decisions impacting local communities should be made at the level closest to The People.
- Banning RCV for municipal elections would harm urban Republicans: Major Ohio cities effectively have one-party rule, but RCV would allow more Republicans, Independents, and other candidates across the political spectrum to compete.

Oppose SB 63.

Best,

Jacqueline Themel