

March 25, 2025

Chuck Soder
19520 Beach Cliff Blvd.
Rocky River, OH 44116

Dear Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blacksheer, and members of the General Government Committee:

Thank you for your time. My name is Danielle Morris, and as a constituent in Columbus, Ohio I wish to express my opposition to Senate Bill 63.

Ranked-choice voting is a smart choice for Ohio to give citizens better representation and to save money on runoff elections. We would never need to pay for a second, runoff, election again, which saves millions of taxpayer dollars per election. It also forces candidates to win a true majority of 50%+1 of the votes, a true majority of the population, requiring an appeal to more people instead of special interests.

Some may argue that we shouldn't allow Ranked-Choice Voting ("RCV") because it is banned in other states and therefore must not be a legal process. However, far more legislation is being passed in favor of RCV than the other way around. As of August 2023, twice as many RCV bills were introduced in state legislatures than in 2022. Twice as many of those bills supported the use of RCV rather than opposed it.

Three states passed ban bills in 2024 that had RCV in place for military and overseas voters (MS, AL, LA). All three created an exception for military and overseas voters, so these voters will continue to vote with a ranked ballot in races eligible for runoffs. Clearly, RCV is seen as a valuable way to ensure a person's vote counts. If it can be done legally for military and overseas voters, it can be done legally for local voters as well.

Ohio is a state of free-thinking citizens. The Secretary of State's 2024 statistics show that 5,734,850 of the 8,060,554 registered voters in Ohio are not affiliated with either the Democratic Party or the Republican Party. We value, as a state, what makes sense for regular folks, even if it's not the "popular" opinion of any major party or group. Ohio's historic support of home rule over elections is tied to our values of freedom and elections without excessive government interference.

When a movement is growing fast and challenging the status quo, it's natural to have some pushback. Elected officials are used to campaigning and winning under first-past-the-post, single-choice voting. The current system leaves many of the 71% of Ohio voters who have chosen not to affiliate with either major party unrepresented. It is crucial for regular people to feel involved with and represented by their government. Don't forget The People when you make this important decision about our Ohio elections. It is your duty to represent the interests of the People and not Yourself as a Politician.

Thank you again for your time.

Danielle Morris