

18 Feb 2024

Randy L. Smith  
401 N Pearl St, Apt B  
Granville, OH 43023

The Ohio Senate  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: SB 137 Testimony

Dear SB 137 Committee Members,

I am writing in **opposition** to SB 137. I have lived in District 20 since 1988.

First, you have no right to tell Ohio citizens how they may vote! It's not your place. Should the voters of a county, city, village or township wish to select ranked choice voting for their ballots (or should they not), that decision is theirs alone. Home rule is our right.

With that said, it happens that I personally want THE RIGHT to consider ranked choice voting, for the following reasons:

- it means that candidates who win do so with the majority of votes
- it means we would potentially have more candidates to consider, offering more nuance
- it would encourage candidates to reach the broadest constituency, to "reach across the aisle"
- it holds promise to engender a more congenial less hegemonic culture of governance
- it permits prioritizing local ballot issues, ranking them in the order with which they should be funded.

And on a final note, our electorate isn't stupid. We all rank life's choices every day. To argue that this voting format is "too complicated" for citizens is both arrogant and insulting.

Vote **NO** on SB 137.

Respectfully Yours,

Randy L. Smith