

STRONGLY OPPOSE

This bill permits counties to adopt ranked-choice voting counting first and second choices. This method gives a voter first and second choice so if the first choice is eliminated by receiving the fewest votes, the voters second choice becomes their vote. In effect, it gives that voter two votes. In contrast, the person voting for the top candidates on the ballot only get one vote.

Rank Choice voting makes it impossible to see the winner by simply tallying the votes. Instead every vote has an alternate vote depending on the overall tally. It requires some gymnastics inside the tabulator. In fact a special tabulator software is required. In the past you would have had one set of winners followed by a run off election if there was a 2 part election. This tries to do it all in one election and is very confusing to the electors. It will disrupt confidence in the election process.

Counties may think this will save the county money from not having two elections, but the system is more vulnerable to fraud. This bill is a clear and present danger to the integrity of our election system, and also superimposes the Secretary of State on local elections.