

Dear Senate Rules Committee,

We want a new system that improves over current plurality (first past the post) voting. We want it to solve spoiler candidate issues. That is we want to remove the negative aspect of having more than two candidates run in an election such that the additional candidates make it less likely that the electorate will be satisfied with the election outcome. Approval voting, Score (a.k.a. Range) voting, and STAR (Score Then Automatic Runoff) voting all do this while RCV (Rank Choice Voting a.k.a IRV (Instant Runoff Voting)) does not. This 4 minute video by mathematician Ph.D. Andrew Jennings shows ways in which RCV can fail (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtKAScORevQ>).

We want a system that is simple to understand. Understand how to vote and how the vote gets to the results it does. RCV is by no means simple to understand and its results can be beyond understanding for most people. Consider an Oakland, CA mayoral election that used RCV. Below is a snippet of the last 5 rounds of its 10 round runoff. Do you understand what it is telling us? It's complicated and opaque and will not garner trust by the electorate.

	Round 6		Round 7		Round 8		Round 9		Round 10	
	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%
Don Perrata	40812	34.39%	41362	35.08%	42186	36.13%	45463	40.16%	51870	49.04%
Terence Candell	2680	2.26%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Jean Quan	30498	25.70%	30882	26.19%	31653	27.11%	35031	30.94%	53895	50.96%
Joe Tuman	14949	12.60%	15202	12.89%	15462	13.24%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Marcie Hodge	3250	2.74%	3625	3.07%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Rebecca Kaplan	26496	22.32%	26831	22.76%	27475	23.53%	32719	28.90%	0	0.00%
Exhausted by Over Votes	380		401		416		461		526	
Under Votes	2306		2306		2306		2306		2306	
Exhausted Ballots	893		1655		2766		6284		13667	
Continuing Ballots	118685		117902		116776		113213		105765	

Use of RCV in our election will slow the time to result and make recounts much more onerous than it is today or would be with these other methods.

The cost of implementing RCV is higher than any of the other fore mentioned methods. There is no need to manufacture an emergency in order to pay for new systems with any of the above methods other than RCV.

Based on the above, I am against SB 343 and SB 791 preferring instead HB3250.

Thanks for considering my input,

Will Auld