

Chair Senator Wagner, Vice-chair Senator Girod and members of the committee:  
I am excited to support SB 791!

Ranked Choice Voting is one of the best solutions to decrease polarization in America. With partisanship getting as bad as it is, Ranked Choice Voting allows voters to compromise on the candidates. Ranked Choice Voting grants us a more representative democracy because the voters can be more specific and precise with their preferences.

Ranked Choice Voting addresses the Spoiler Problem with voting, where voting for a less popular or third party candidate can lead to your second choice not winning because the other candidate "stole" the vote. Rank Choice Voting can give voters the freedom to choose the candidates that they wish without repercussions. Furthermore, Ranked Choice Voting offers opportunities for further election reform, like Open Primaries. Not only will this increase voter turnout, but it opens the doors for a more unified country.

Think about the primary presidential election in 2020. If you preferred a candidate other than Joe Biden, you could not vote for them unless you wanted to risk handing the nomination to Bernie Sanders. Ranked Choice Voting allows the voter to give extensive feedback, and to not be pressured into voting a certain way.

Thank you so much for your time, Ranked Choice Voting is extremely important to me.

Respectfully,

Jared Garson

Salem, OR