

Submitter: Anna Heinrich
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: HB2004

Chair Lieber, Vice Chair Knopp, and members of the Senate Committee on Rules,

My name is Anna Heinrich and I live in zip code 97223. I am writing to testify in strong support for HB 2004, a referral to the 2024 ballot that would establish ranked choice voting for statewide and federal elections.

I have supported rank choice voting for many years now. With rank choice voting there is less fear of splitting the vote so more people of color, young people and working class people are more likely to run and win elections. I would like to see more representative groups in our legislator. Additionally I feel rank choice voting would eliminate smear campaigns leading to more issue focused campaign. In rank choice voting it is a valid strategy to be someone's second choice and so smear campaigns are less likely. Finally, rank choice voting would allow other parties to run their candidates and break the two party hold on our system. I believe this will force our representatives to cooperate more on issues.

I am not alone in my support of this bill. This legislation is supported by a coalition of over 35 organizations, including culturally-specific organizations, labor unions, environmental groups, housing advocates, rural communities, youth-empowering organizations, and good government groups.

Ranked choice voting is Oregon's next step as a leader in election reform. Please support HB 2004, which will refer this critical piece of legislation to voters for the 2024 ballot, and pass it out of committee.

Thank you for your service,

Anna Heinrich