

JANEEN SOLLMAN
STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 15



OREGON STATE SENATE

June 20, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Rules in support of HB 2004

Chair Lieber, Vice Chair Knopp, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today in support of HB 2004. This bill establishes ranked choice voting as the voting method for selecting the winner of nomination for, and election to federal offices and statewide electeds. Many large cities and states have already adopted ranked choice voting- such as New York and San Francisco. It has proven to promote more cooperation and moderation among candidates as well as help voters feel like their votes matter and that they are able to fully express their preferences.

I have received many emails from my constituents in support of ranked choice voting. I personally support RCV. It is supported by a large coalition of over 30 organizations, of all kinds. Some jurisdictions in Oregon have already started to implement this method for local elections. In the 2022 election, over 95% of Corvallis voters ranked multiple candidates in a three-way mayoral race. We recently saw voters pass ranked choice voting for the City of Portland and Multnomah County. There are many positive benefits to changing our system. RCV will provide more reflective representation, provide more meaningful choices by allowing voters to rank the candidates, and has been shown to improve election turnout since people feel their voice is truly heard through their vote and can eliminate the need for multiple elections, which can save taxpayer money.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share my support of HB 2004. Let's allow Oregon voters to look at what each candidate could bring to the office and give Oregon voters true choice in elections. I respectfully urge your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janeen Sollman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Senator Janeen Sollman
Senate District 15