

Submitter: Daniel Shaw
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: HB2004

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed bill establishing Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) as the voting method for selecting the winners of nomination for and election to the offices of the President of the United States, United States Senator, Representative in Congress, Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, and Attorney General.

As an Oregon resident deeply committed to strengthening our democracy, I am convinced that implementing RCV would represent a significant step towards a more fair, representative, and robust political process.

RCV, with its unique mechanism allowing voters to rank candidates in order of preference, ensures that no vote is wasted. Even if a voter's top choice doesn't have enough support to win, their vote isn't discarded but goes to their next preferred candidate. This system empowers voters with greater choice and promotes a more diverse range of candidates.

By discouraging negative campaigning and incentivizing candidates to seek broad appeal, RCV has the potential to foster a more constructive, inclusive political discourse. It would encourage politicians to appeal to a broader base of constituents, promoting cooperation and more moderate policy platforms.

Given the current climate of political polarization, introducing RCV in Oregon could serve as a model for other states, demonstrating the potential for a more inclusive and representative electoral system.

I urge you to support this bill and work towards its implementation in Oregon. The time is ripe for a voting method that better reflects the will of the people and contributes to a healthier political environment.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to our state.