

Submitter: George B Hutchinson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: HB2004

I am a long-time supporter of ranked choice voting as it allows me to know that even if my first choice is a "long shot" with little chance to win, that my vote is not "wasted." It gives me another strong reason to vote--participate in our democracy. It also gives me more confidence in whoever does win as I understand that the winning candidate ultimately has support from a majority of voters. Though RCV may not generate a full consensus from all voters, it most certainly moves our electorate in that direction. It gives voters more ownership of our governors and reason to support our government. It is a more democratic form of voting. In the several organizations I am a member, ranked choice voting has been employed for some years to elect our officers and board. Members have observed that it has diminished rancor and prior witnessed debate over the election results and ultimately seemed to lead to improved harmony of general meeting discussions. We now utilize this form of voting in Corvallis city elections and Benton County elections. It seems to be working well and has the support of a large majority of voters here.