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On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB2004

Rank Choice Voting would strike a terrible blow to our democratic process of choosing representation. It risks causing ballot exhaustion, which happens when voters rank too few candidates. If five candidates are running, but the voter ranks only three, and all three are eliminated prior to the last round. As a result, none of their votes will have gone to the winning candidate or the runner-up. In effect, their ballot doesn't figure in the outcome, this disenfranchises voters.

The largest problem in Oregon elections since paper ballots cast by mail & drop box began in 2020 is growing voter apathy. RCV will increase apathy. It has not shown to increase turnout, but instead it dilutes the power of each voter, in turn if they don't rank every candidate, they stand to lose the power of the vote they cast.

Considering our pending district elections, we already have many counties with lower than 25% overall voter turnout. RCV will not improve this, it will lower turnout when voters realize that the bottom of the barrel move to the top because of the political division created by a media bent on dividing our communities into groups.

Every patriot who knows the power of our representative republic should understand that Rank Choice Voting is counter to the democratic process we hold dear.