

RE: Support Statewide Ranked Choice Voting, HB 2004
House Committee on Rules

03/15/2023

Chair Fahey, Vice Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice Chair Kropf, and members of the House Committee on Rules,

My name is **Joseph Haffey** and I live in **Redmond**. I am writing to testify in strong support for HB 2004, which will establish ranked choice voting statewide and help ensure all Oregonians are represented in our democracy.

In our current elections, candidates in crowded races are consistently winning with less than a majority. Over half of statewide and federal races with more than two candidates won with narrow support in Oregon's 2020 and 2022 primaries¹, leaving me and other voters feeling like our votes didn't count and we were unable to fully express our preferences. Fear of splitting the vote creates barriers for candidates to run and leads to voter cynicism. It's clear that our elections aren't serving voters or candidates as best as they could.

Ranked choice voting is a simple improvement to our elections that will lead to more reflective elected bodies for Oregonians from every community. With ranked choice voting, it will empower me and other voters to make more meaningful and represented choices. I will be able to support the candidates that reflect my values best, without fear of leaving my voice unheard. Ranked choice voting would make our democracy more equitable, and it will better help us elect a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

Ranked choice voting is a proven solution and Oregon's next step as a leader in election reform. Please support HB 2004 and pass it out of committee.

Thank you,

Joseph Haffey

¹ Oregon Secretary of State, [State of Oregon Elections: Election History](#)