HB 3509 - OPPOSE

My husband and I oppose HB 3509 to establish Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) in Oregon because it is a system which basically allows a loser to be claimed a winner. It complicates and confuses true voting results making any attempt at auditing virtually impossible.

RCV can pervert the elections so that two candidates on the same side of the issues could outnumber a candidate on the other side of the issues which would seriously disenfranchise many voters.

Drilling down further:

- RCV is a needlessly complicated and confusing method of managing elections.
- RCV takes weeks to figure out who the winners of elections are.
- RCV eliminates "one person, one vote."
- RCV disenfranchises voters with its convoluted assessment of ranking candidates, keeping some and eliminating others.
- The RCV process controls the results of elections according to the algorithms used by the Secretary of State's computers (which have been proven to be susceptible to wireless hacking, as stated by the current Oregon Attorney General).
- RCV eliminates any transparency and accountability of the election process.
- RCV makes it impossible to audit the election for errors, as there will be no physical record to examine.

We see that RCV is also opposed by the Oregon Association of County Clerks (OACC) because:

- RCV makes the primary more complicated.
- Reconciling RCV between multiple counties is complicated and will remove final tallying from county election officials.
- It places a difficult task on Election Officials seeking to reconcile the number of ballots accepted and tallied when multiple ballot pages/sheets are sent to each voter (many voters only return the ballot pages with the contests that are of interest to them).
- There are substantial costs involved with implementing RCV.
- Current public confidence in elections is low, and the complications involved with RCV have the potential to fuel conspiracy theories and allegations related to lack of transparency.

Instead of proposing these bills to implement RCV, why don't our elected officials:

- · Clean our voter rolls.
- Provide voting registration only for those engaged in the process, who are 18 years and older, who are not incarcerated felons.
- Limit voting to one designated voting day, at a local designated polling place, for registered voters who can show ID, to vote for one person for each position on a paper ballot?

We OPPOSE HB 3509 for all of these reasons, so we urge you to VOTE NO on HB 3509 and NO on HB 2004.