

Submitter: Diannah Dolby
On Behalf Of: Common Sense
Committee: House Committee On Rules
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I am writing to you in strong opposition of this House Bill. Why would anyone want to create and initiate a complex voting system in which the end result is manipulated, shady and unclear? The whole process sounds like a shell game to me. Are we children creating a fairy tale world in which, if we do not get our first choice, we can vie for our second choice. And if we do not select a second, third, or more: we risk having our vote thrown out completely until what's left of 'a majority' is only a small portion of the minority of voters. Grow up.

We should NOT be trying to make voting easier (mail in ballots), not by voter harvesting, not allowing incarcerated felon voting, not lowering voting age, nor ranked choice which all complicate and muddy the waters. We should be encouraging in person voting, making sure that each voter knows their vote is submitted and counted. I remember growing up and people were proud to go vote and wear their 'I Voted' sticker. We need to bring back that pride in our state.

This Rank Choice Voting would make recounts impossible and literally throws out voters completely so that their voice is worse than silenced, its discarded. Others have thought this idea could work, only to learn it was a horrible mistake. See results of Alaska vote 2020. Governor Jerry Brown Jr. (D) of California in 2016, vetoed a bill to expand ranked choice voting in his state, saying it was "overly complicated and confusing" and "deprives voters of a genuinely informed choice." A study published in 2015 that reviewed 600,000 votes cast using ranked choice voting in four local elections found that "the winner in all four elections receive[d] less than a majority of the total votes cast." Let's learn from their mistakes, rather than wander in the desert for 40 years.

I feel that ranked choice voting with it's complicated voting and even more complicated counting would decrease voter participation because of muddied voting transparency and the overall inefficiency of the voter process.

Faithfully,
Diannah Dolby