

My name is Lindy Delf. I absolutely believe we need election reform but we can't afford to adopt a flawed system. Ranked Choice Voting has an enormous amount of money behind it and thus, wide name familiarity. It claims to solve important issues like the spoiler or Ralph Nader effect but there are significant problems it ignores. One of the biggest is asking voters to know enough about all the candidates to rank them; a herculean task for a very well educated retiree like me with time for research. That doesn't describe most voters, particularly the under-represented voters we want to engage. Not having any idea about the candidates you don't want means you *can't* rank them yet *not* ranking all the candidates can lead to the ballot not counting at all.

A Pew Research Center study in 2016 found the vast majority of voters knew who they wanted but very little about the other candidates. Telling voters you have to mark every candidate or your vote won't count is giving them an impossible task and limits turnout. Worse, when the candidates you wanted don't make the final cuts, your vote doesn't count at all. In a study of 96 elections using RCV nationwide the number of these "exhausted ballots" where the voters' ballots in the end, *did not count*, ranged from 9.4 to 27.1 percent, with an average of 10.9%. This is a huge issue and one that revisions of RCV such as STAR Voting have remedied.

Despite glowing claims made by Fair Vote about RCV, the reality is that all of the following jurisdictions have adopted, tried and abandoned rank choice voting; Burlington VT, Ann Arbor Mich, North Carolina, Aspen, Colorado, and Pierce County, Wa.

We all want voting reform but we need a system that all voters can understand and trust will count every voters' vote. Star Voting does that. RCV does not. With Star Voting, the problems plaguing Ranked Choice Voting have been addressed and eliminated. The ballot is simple. Every vote counts. The runoff is instant. We end up with concrete data telling us how much support every candidate got; information we don't have now when voters often "can't afford" to vote their beliefs and not only *which* candidates and issues the voters truly supported but the actual numbers of voters who did; critical information in a democracy "of the people, for the people".

We all want voting reform. We all want voters who believe their vote matters enough to show up and vote. Please take a deeper look at the problems of RCV and let the voters consider Star Voting, its best revision.