

Submitter: Sean Connolly
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3166

I oppose HB 3166.

This idea has been before the voters and rejected, yet Oregon legislators continue to patronize the electorate and believe politicians know better than citizens. Any legislation dealing with an important right of the people should only make its practice easier and engender more confidence in its application. This legislation does neither. It drips of partisanship as its support comes overwhelmingly from one side of the aisle, not both. Voting with this system only complicates the system and undermines confidence. The use of this type of system elsewhere has resulted in winners with fewer votes than others who had more votes, based on the complicated rules needed to utilize this type of system and to count in this type of system. This type of system has been banned in some jurisdictions and others using it have seen unreasonable results and are passing legislation to rid themselves of this complicated process. I hope Oregon legislators understand their voters and reject this disenfranchisement of citizens. Thank you for your time.

Summary

- Oregon voters already rejected this idea.
- Ranked-choice voting's track record is the best argument against it.
- Ranked-choice voting requires that legitimate voters' ballots be thrown in the trash when no candidate receives a majority of the vote.
- Candidates with the most votes often lose while those receiving as little as four percent of the vote win, diminishing voter confidence in elections.
- Ranked-choice voting leads to errors and delayed results lasting weeks, or even months.