

Submitter: John Kendall
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3166

To the Oregon House of Representatives
Re: Opposition to HB3166 – Ranked Choice Voting

Dear Representatives,

I write to you today with a resolute and unwavering opposition to HB3166, the latest attempt by Oregon Democrats to ram Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) down the throats of a populace that has repeatedly, and with crystal-clear conviction, rejected it. The people of Oregon have spoken—most recently through the decisive defeat of Measure 117—and yet here we are again, facing another arrogant push to impose a system that is as convoluted as it is unwanted. This is not democracy; this is a blatant disregard for the will of the voters, and it must stop.

Ranked Choice Voting is a disaster masquerading as reform. It complicates elections, confuses voters, and undermines the fundamental principle of one person, one vote. Instead of a straightforward system where the candidate with the most support wins, RCV drags us into a labyrinth of vote redistribution and mathematical wizardry that leaves citizens alienated and distrustful. Oregonians are not guinea pigs for your experimental schemes, nor are we clamoring for a process that delays results and invites skepticism about their legitimacy. The voters have seen through this nonsense time and time again, and yet you persist in treating our rejection as a mere inconvenience to your agenda.

Let's be clear: the repeated failure of RCV at the ballot box is not a fluke. It is a mandate. Measure 117 was not the first time Oregonians said no, and it should not require a third, fourth, or fifth rejection for you to get the message. Forcing HB3166 upon us now is not only a betrayal of democratic principles but an insult to every voter who has already weighed in on this ill-conceived idea. You were elected to represent us, not to overrule us when our decisions don't align with your pet projects. The costs of implementing RCV—both financial and in terms of public trust—are astronomical and unjustifiable. Our election system is not broken; it does not need this radical overhaul. What it needs is respect for the people's voice, not a handful of legislators who think they know better than the very citizens they serve. To pursue HB3166 in the face of such consistent opposition is to invite chaos, division, and a legacy of arrogance that history will not judge kindly.

I urge you—nay, I demand you—to abandon this reckless pursuit of Ranked Choice Voting. Kill HB3166 before it further erodes the faith Oregonians have in their government. Listen to us. Respect us. Stop this madness now.

Sincerely,

John Kendall
Cornelius, Oregon