

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3166

JUNGLE PRIMARIES via RCV ..... NO! Why on earth would any party want the other party voting and controlling their candidates and future representatives???? If you were selecting a Head Coach for your Professional Team, would you want the opposing team voting on who your Head Coach was going to be??? Or who you could select them from??NO!!!!

This system would also enable one party to overwhelm the Primary Ballot candidates list and end up stacking the Final Ballot with 5 final candidates, all the same Party. NO!!! That is NOT how our system works!!!

NO RANK CHOICE VOTING FOR OREGON!!! NO Jungle Primaries!

RCV was put to the Voters of Oregon who strongly objected to this system and Voted NO! I have not looked, but I don't think it was a "party line" defeat. We the Voters have spoken, and we don't want it!

So, I have to ask, why would you ever try to shove it through against the Oregon Voters wishes now?? Because it is confusing to voters? Easier to push through a less desirable candidate? So less voters participate? RCV also disenfranches the elderly, people with disabilities, tribal citizens whose primary language is not English. Elderly (and most) people tend to "bullet vote", i.e. only pick one. Most people don't understand to rank their choices.

When Benton County started using RCV, I sent several emails to the Elections office asking for clarification on Undervoting and Overvoting, since the explanation made by the Bigfoot, Salmon, Beaver and whatever else cutesie cartoons were not clear (perhaps intentionally). Sidenote: How much money was spent on that marketing boondoggle? I digress.....anyway, the local office could not answer my questions. Then after that first election season, I inquired again, as to how many votes were "wasted" due to over/under voting. They again, could not answer, but told me it didn't matter since the ranking didn't come into play as the "winner" received 50%+1 on the initial count.

My argument is, IF everyone understood the system, and IF everyone's vote truly counted, would the end result have been the same? We will never know.

Now, jump forward to 2024. I again, asked for results from Benton County Elections Department, in November 2024 election, out of 46,644 voters, 3,771 voters

didn't/couldn't follow the instructions to accurately use the RCV system. That is 8% of the Benton County voters!!! Why would any local governments want to put in place a voting system that at least 8% of Voters can't/don't follow?? If people don't understand, they won't participate. Or is that the plan?

"At this point for Commissioner Position 3, there are 47 Overvotes and 3,386 Undervotes. (Interesting these are not the same over/under as listed on current web page, they state 48+3,723)

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Our State already has a huge budget deficit. Why would you want to spend millions of dollars creating and implementing the RCV system? (Which btw, could potentially be made illegal by the current administration, so once again, it would just be another huge waste of tax payer money). How about using that money to AUDIT our VOTER ROLLS, clean them up and take away the skepticism that Oregonians have about the validity of our elections? What a novel concept!

And again, Oregon VOTED on RCV....we voted NO!!! Doing it anyway against the people's voice is NOT how our system is supposed to work!!!

Do the right thing Reps!!!! Kill this Bill!!