

SB368 – Proponent

Prohibiting the use of any form of ranked-choice voting method for the conduct of elections.

Written Testimony only

Ranked-choice voting (RCV) should not be allowed in any election. This includes all primary and general elections during Presidential and non-Presidential elections. Following are my concerns with ranked-choice voting following also known as “instant runoff voting”:

- The ballots in ranked-choice voting are more complicated than our traditional ballots. Traditional ballots are a “one person one vote” election.
- Due to the complexity and makes it more confusing for certain age, social class, and educational groups. This is discrimination. The idea behind voting is to make it simple and easy for the voter to know who and what you are voting for. With ranked-choice voting a voter’s ballot can simply be thrown out due to not following the complicated instructions.
- If you do not rank the voters on the ballot (only vote for the one person) your ballot will be thrown out after the first round a tabulation. This is known as an exhausted ballot, and they are not counted in the final tally.
- The idea RCV is a majority rule is incorrect since ballots are being thrown out due to not following the complicated instructions or being considered an exhausted ballot.
- In order for a voter’s voice to be fully count in every round of an RCV election, the voter must vote for all candidates on the ballot, even the ones they do not support and follow the complicated instructions.
- NOT ALL VOTES COUNT with Ranked-choice voting
- RCV delays the election counting process since it must be done at a centralized location for counting due to the multiple rounds of tabulation. A software system is used to count these ballots. Nothing is hand counted. I have no trust in our machines, due to all the testimony and evidence presented over the last 3-4 years.

The other side is promoting voters have more candidate choices. Most people do not have the time nor knowledge to research every candidate. Not to mention when a person does research candidate information, it is not always accurate. The idea of ensuring majority rule (50+1) is false. People’s voices are being silenced due to their ballots being thrown out or exhausted. We need to keep our voting process as simple as possible, rank-choice voting only complicates the process. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Fighting for Election Integrity,

Jannel Munk
Douglas County Resident