



March 15, 2023

Ranked Choice Voting and the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact Are Compatible

Testimony to the Minnesota House Elections Finance and Policy Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony concerning the Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) bill in Minnesota (HF2486).

By way of introduction, the National Popular Vote (NPV) organization advocates for the adoption of an interstate compact guaranteeing the Presidency to the candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (SF538 / HF642) was passed by this committee last month, and is now on the General Register in the Minnesota House.

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is a voting system that allows each individual voter to rank candidates for a given office.

At the time that the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact was written, interest in Ranked Choice Voting was increasing, but RCV had not yet been adopted for statewide use by any state. Nonetheless, the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact was specifically written so as to be compatible with RCV. In fact, the President of FairVote (the leading national advocacy organization for RCV) was one of the authors of the Compact.

The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact leaves the decision of voting system to each state's legislature and was specifically written to honor the choice of each state adopting RCV as to how votes cast under its RCV system are to be counted for purposes of a presidential election.

In recent years, RCV has been adopted by two states (Maine and Alaska) for use in presidential elections (as well as congressional, local, and other elections)

I want to make clear that RCV and NPV are compatible.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Koza".

Dr. John R. Koza, Chair

National Popular Vote

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