

Chair Masin and members of the Local Government Division,

I am writing today to ask that you vote yes on H.F. 89 and advance this bill out of committee.

I am a voter in Bloomington, Minnesota. While I was somewhat familiar with ranked choice voting (RCV), I really learned of local efforts to bring forth this democracy reform at a National Night Out party in 2018. Many conversations were had in our community throughout 2018, 2019, and 2020 - ultimately leading to voters approving a charter amendment to establish RCV for our municipal elections. This year - 2021 - will be our first year using RCV and I am thrilled!

I really believe that every community across Minnesota deserves the chance to make RCV a possibility in their local elections. I've volunteered on several campaigns - and I really do believe that RCV can make a difference. Eliminating that early primary, ensuring more voters have more choice in November, and helping candidates find the positive side of campaigning and their visions for leadership within our communities.

The RCV bill H.F. 89 has 39 cosponsors across Minnesota - a strong showing of the support and strength this policy reform has. Please vote today to pass this out of committee.

Thank you,

Anita Smithson  
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She/Her