

Chair Masin and members of the Local Government Division:

I write to encourage you to vote in favor of this bill for the following reasons:

- The bill is broadly supported with 39 cosponsors across Minnesota.
- RCV stops the spoiler problem and prevents parties from exploiting it to take votes away from another party or candidate.
- We have reached a crisis point in our political polarization, and now is the time to pass RCV. It creates incentives for candidates to be civil, build broad majority coalitions to win, and be responsive once in office.
- Under our current system, the candidate with the most votes wins — even if he or she hasn't earned a majority — and an extreme candidate with a committed base of support can win in a multicandidate race even if the majority of voters would have preferred someone else. RCV fundamentally changes those dynamics by ensuring that the greatest number of voters support the winner.
- RCV opens up the electoral process to new and diverse voices and gives voters more power and more choice.
- Minnesota's local experience with RCV has been a resounding success, and every community deserves the opportunity to use it if they wish.

I thank you for your consideration and hope you will vote in favor of H.F. 89 and advance it out of committee for a full House vote.

Best regards,

Rob Albright