

Sara Bertschinger  
Pine Island writing in Opposition to SF2270/HF2486

To the Chair and Committee,

I am deeply concerned over the purposed system of Ranked Choice Voting. This has been trialed a few places around the country. I keep hearing multiple complaints of dissatisfaction with this system. A recent poll concluded that while Democrats slightly favored RCV; bot Republicans and Independents both opposed this voting method.

The following are a list of concerns I have with RCV:

- 1- a complicated and confusing system that reduce voter turnout and participation.
- 2- RCV is prone to ballot errors and other technical issues that will undermine the integrity of our electoral system.
- 3- This method is costly and time-consuming process for both our local and state government. This will take resources away from key areas of need such as infrastructure, health, and education.
- 4- RCV is an instant run off voting system; meaning multiple elections all at one time! this eliminates the One person One vote method!
- 5- Disfranchises minor parties and solidifies a 2-party system
- 6- redistribution of votes creates mistrust in the system
- 7- Ballot exhaustion! As the rounds continue some people will have their votes discarded and will Not get a voice or a vote! This is NOT OK!!! This disfranchises voters and is NOT inclusive. Ballot exhaustion also makes a recount and audit of the election almost impossible!
- 8- RCV system requires more transferring, handling, adjudication and chain-of-custody issues with ballots. RCV does not induce confidence and opens up for more potential to fraud, manipulation and error.
- 9- This system is very time consuming; (sometimes 3 weeks or more!) This will delay election results and create voter anxiety, frustration, and mistrust.

All of this results in further mistrust of the system and results. We have seen a growing rise in mistrust, dissatisfaction and apathy in our election process. Is this really the time to add to the confusion and weariness of Minnesotan voters? We need safe, transparent clear elections! A methodical fair process everyone can trust. . RCV does not deliver! For these reasons, I urge you to oppose any proposals for Ranked Choice Voting in Minnesota. I appreciate the desire to improve our electoral system; RCV, however, is not the right solution for our state. Don't Rank MN!

Thank you for your time,  
Sara Bertschinger