



April 8, 2024

Representative
Ginny Klevorn
Chair
State and Local Government Finance
and Policy Committee
581 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative
Jim Nash
Ranking Minority Leader
State and Local Government Finance
and Policy Committee
349 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Klevorn and Committee Members:

The Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs (MCLA) supports Ranked Choice Voting (HF3276-Rep. Frazier), a bill that offers more voting options in local elections where this method may be chosen.

There are many benefits of Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) that align with our statutory principles of political equality for our constituents. It mainly offers voters more choice and more voice, limiting polarizing views and favoring solutions and ideas to ideate policy and promote civic discourse. It also has the potential to encourage more diverse and inclusive candidates and platforms, advancing the political representation of women and communities of color. At the same time, RCV is likely to produce higher turnout in local elections, as it has already been proven in every RCV city that has adopted this option. Ultimately, this bill seeks at expanding democracy, with a consistent set of standards and rules under the Secretary of State's authority, while promoting local control as it would be up to cities, counties, and school districts to decide if this method works best for their communities.

For these reasons, the Council respectfully advises the Chair and the Committee to pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Rosa Tock
Executive Director