

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE C

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) improves elections. It empowers voters to fully express their opinion, and frees us from “lesser of two evils” choices. RCV also save money by eliminating the need for run-off elections. Please vote yes on C.

At least 15 cities and the state of Maine already use RCV, as well as the Utah Republican Party. RCV encourages a wider range of candidates and inspires higher voter turnout. In winner-take-all elections, voters are often forced to settle for uninspiring candidate. Many do not vote at all. By allowing voters to rank their choices, from the candidate they want most to the one they want least, RCV encourages more candidates to run. We need elected officials from different cultural, economic and generational backgrounds. RCV can do that.

Ranked Choice Voting:

- **Discourages negative campaigning:** RCV promotes issue-based campaigning. The current system incentivizes negative campaigning. Under RCV, candidates must show voters why they are the “next best” choice.
- **Provides more choices:** In the current system, candidates are actively discouraged from running for fear they will split the vote, leading to voter disengagement with a process that seems rigged. More candidates means more robust debate and more diverse points of view. Municipalities that have enacted RCV have seen increases in voter turnout.
- **Minimizes strategic voting:** Rather than vote for a candidate because they seem more “electable,” RCV allows us to vote for the candidates we really want.
- **Promotes broader representation:** Municipalities with RCV have seen an increase in the diversity of candidates, resulting in elected officials who more accurately reflect the community.
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Please vote Yes on C for Ranked Choice Voting.

/s/ John Frahm, Secretary-Treasurer Humboldt/Del Norte Central Labor Council,
AFL-CIO

/s/ Caroline Griffith, Steering Committee Chair on behalf of North Coast People’s
Alliance

/s/ Tamara McFarland, Director (Board Treasurer) on behalf of Cooperation Humboldt