

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** Lisa Daft <lisadaftdmd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2026 8:33 AM  
**To:** House State Government and Elections Committee  
**Subject:** SUPPORT- H 7380 , H7451 OPPOSE- H 8334

Dear Committee members,

I fully support H 7380 and H-7451. I oppose H8334. Please do not make our elections less secure or fair. Ranked Choice voting should never be an option.

Ranked-Choice Voting makes it harder to vote, harder to count the votes, and much harder to ensure a transparent and accountable democratic process. In an RCV election, voters may get more power if they rank more candidates. But that means, rather than identifying one candidate to support, voters must research multiple candidates and form opinions about their relative preferences for as many as five or more. This benefits those who have more time and access to information—in short, RCV gives more power to elites while making it harder for everyone else. An RCV ballot is also longer and takes more time for voters to complete. This means more delays and longer lines at polling places. It also creates many new opportunities to make a mistake, increasing the chances that a voter's intent is not correctly recorded or that ballots are disqualified and discarded.

Special election equipment is necessary to scan ballots and tabulate votes in RCV elections. For some jurisdictions, this requires expensive updates and retraining of staff. RCV also means longer ballots that use more paper and take longer to scan. And the multiple rounds of tabulation cannot even begin until every single ballot is processed. For example, Alaska does not even begin tabulation in RCV elections until 15 days after Election Day.

RCV elections that require multiple rounds of tabulation rely on computers to make adjustments, or discard, ballots in each round. There is no way to quickly confirm the accuracy of the computer processes involved. This is why, in an RCV election in California, a data entry error went undetected and the wrong winner was certified. A recount, sometimes by hand, is required to verify the results in close or questionable elections. RCV makes this more difficult, and in some cases could make it impossible. But RCV also makes it more likely, because each round presents a new opportunity for a close margin. The complexity of a multi-round RCV election, particularly if there are many candidates and hundreds of thousands of ballots, would make a hand recount impossible within the limited time required before certifying an election.

Thank you,  
Lisa Daft  
Barrington