

Name: Amber Ma

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Testimony in OPPOSITION to H-7380: Prohibits the use of ranked choice voting in all local, state and federal public office elections.

Why I OPPOSE this bill:

To the Honorable Members of the Committee,

My name is Amber Ma, and I am a resident of Providence. I am writing today to express my strong opposition to any legislation that seeks to ban Ranked Choice Voting (RCV). I urge you to vote against H7380.

In an era of increasing political polarization, our democratic systems should be evolving toward greater inclusivity and representation, not away from it. A ban on RCV is a step backward that limits the tools available to improve voter engagement and ensures that winners have the support of a true majority.

Ranked Choice Voting provides several key benefits to our community:

Encourages Civil Campaigning: Candidates are incentivized to reach beyond their core base to become a voter's second or third choice, reducing negative campaigning.

Eliminates "Spoiler" Candidates: Voters can support their preferred candidate without fear of inadvertently helping their least favorite candidate win.

Ensures Majority Support: RCV ensures that the person elected actually has the broadest consensus among the electorate.

I believe we should be looking for ways to improve our elections, not limiting them. Other cities and states have already shown that this works to bring in more voices and better competition. I urge you to vote no on H7380.

Sincerely,

Amber Ma

Providence, RI