

WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 493 ENTITLED ELECTIONS-RANKED-CHOICE VOTING-
CONTESTS FOR PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION IN 2028

The concept of Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV) is so new to Maryland that there has been very little public discussion about it. RCV has caused confusion and chaos in some jurisdictions where it has been tried or implemented. Errors in calculations and lack of transparency are some of the problems associated with RCV, causing concern of lower voter turn-out.

When one votes for only one candidate, as opposed to a first, second, third choice and so forth, there is the potential that their single choice will not make it for a subsequent round. In Maryland, we are accustomed to voting for our first choice and not having to list alternates whom we would not otherwise choose to select.

RCV can result in a winner being determined who never garnered a true majority. Maryland would be wise to reject RCV outright. Thank you for your consideration.

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