

SB 493: Ranked Choice Voting For Our 2028 Presidential Primary Election



What is Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)?

Instead of choosing just one candidate, RCV allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference (1st, 2nd, 3rd choices).

With RCV, if your 1st choice gets eliminated, your vote stays in play and rolls to your 2nd choice.

	1 1st Choice	2 2nd Choice	3 3rd Choice
Vanilla	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pistachio	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Chocolate	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cookies and Cream	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Vegan Matcha	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rocky Road	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Arlington County, Virginia used Ranked Choice Voting for the first time in the 2023 Democratic Primary Election. This sample ballot educated voters about the process.

How are Votes Counted?

RANKED CHOICE VOTING: HOW IT WORKS

ROCK THE VOTE

1

VOTERS RANK THE CANDIDATES FIRST CHOICE TO LAST CHOICE

1

Candidate C

2

Candidate A

3

Candidate B



2

CANDIDATE C HAS THE FEWEST VOTES, SO 1ST CHOICE VOTES FOR CANDIDATE C WILL CHANGE TO VOTER'S 2ND CHOICE



3

CANDIDATE A HAS NOW WON, SINCE THEY HAVE OVER 50% OF THE VOTES



Why Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)?

RCV more accurately reflects voters' preferences, allowing them to show support for their next preferred candidate if their first choice does not have enough votes.

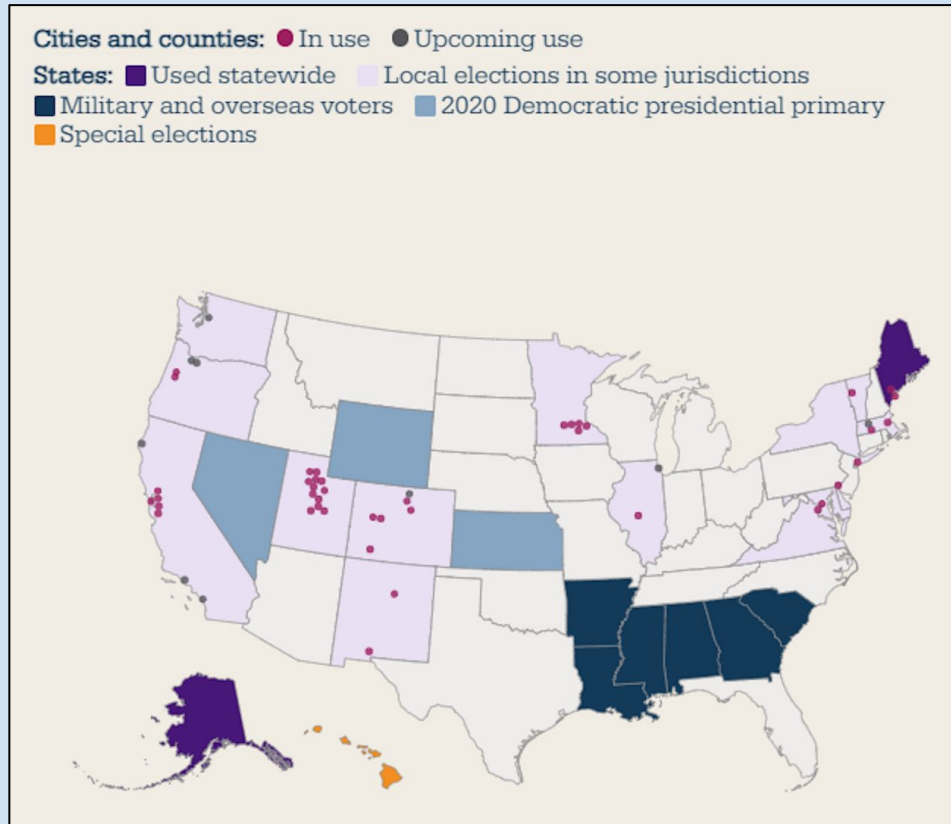
It is simple and intuitive to voters, and it's already used in many countries, states, and municipalities.

Mayor Alcalde	1st choice 1a opción	2nd choice 2a opción	3rd choice 3a opción	4th choice 4a opción
Seth Grimes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Talisha Searcy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jarrett Smith	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in candidate/candidato autonominado	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Council – Ward 4 Concejo – Distrito 4	1st choice 1a opción	2nd choice 2a opción
Terry Seamens	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-in candidate/candidato autonominado	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Example of an RCV Ballot in
Takoma Park, Maryland (2022)*

Ranked Choice Voting by State



Ranked Choice Voting is used in...

- Australia (since 1918)
- Ireland (since the 1910s)
- Malta (since 1921)
- Scotland (since 2007)
- Maine (statewide!) (since 2018)
- Alaska (statewide!) (since 2022)
- Kansas, Nevada, Wyoming (since the 2020 primaries)
- UMBC (for Student Government Elections)
- Academy Award “Oscars” for Best Picture

I urge a favorable report on SB493.

