I strongly oppose SB383 Ranked-Choice Voting in Contests for Presidential Nomination and Certification of Election-Supporting Technology.

Limited Impact on Presidential Elections – Maryland has **only 10 electoral votes** and does not play a decisive role in national elections. Implementing RCV solely for the U.S. Presidential primary makes little sense, especially when other states continue using traditional voting methods.

⬚ **Administrative Complexity** – Adopting a separate RCV system for Presidential primaries creates confusion for voters, election officials, and candidates. It adds unnecessary complexity to Maryland's election process without providing clear benefits.

⬚ **Election Security and Technology Risks** – SB383 requires the State Board of Elections to review and certify election-supporting technology. However, implementing a new RCV system could introduce additional risks, software vulnerabilities, and increased reliance on technology that may not be adequately tested.

⬚ **Potential Voter Confusion** – RCV is often criticized for its complexity. Voters unfamiliar with ranking candidates may be discouraged from participating or make mistakes that could invalidate their ballots.

Excessive and Unnecessary Financial Burden – Implementing Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV) for the **2028 statewide primary election** would **increase general fund expenditures by $501,000 in FY 2027 and by a staggering $1.9 million in FY 2028**. Given Maryland's **$2.7 billion budget deficit in 2025**, this additional cost is both **unnecessary and fiscally irresponsible**. The state simply cannot afford to divert millions of dollars to an experimental voting system, especially when existing election processes function effectively.

Please vote UNFAVORABLE against SB383.

Sincerely,

Nancy Shih

Howard County