

Legislative Counsel  
900 Court St. NE  
S-101  
Salem, OR 97301

To whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the *Ranked Choice Oregon* ballot initiative proposal at [www.RankedChoiceOregon.org](http://www.RankedChoiceOregon.org) which is currently being crafted.

The current use of primitive ballots and simplistic plurality counting forces voters to vote strategically for the lesser of two evils and over time that has put too much emphasis on campaign spending and too little emphasis on ideas, platforms and candidates that would best serve Oregon voters.

Oregon's use of mail-in ballots makes it easy to adopt ranked ballots on which voters can mark more than just a first choice. And computers now make it easy to count that additional preference information in a way that correctly identifies which candidate deserves to win.

This Oregon version of Ranked Choice Voting includes a refinement over the basic version of ranked choice voting that Maine recently adopted, and which the town of Burlington, Vermont, adopted and then rejected after it yielded an obviously unfair result in their 2009 mayoral election. This refinement, which would have prevented that failure, places a high priority on eliminating a candidate who would lose every one-on-one contest against every remaining candidate.

The implementation of ranked choice voting would serve local, general and even primary elections. It would allow us, as voters, to vote for who we truly believe to be the best candidate. This would be a refreshing change from current conditions in which voting for our favorite candidate often amounts to throwing away our vote, or even ends up helping the candidate we most strongly dislike.

I would like to request that the Oregon Legislative Counsel assist in the drafting of this proposal, so that it may be received in such a fashion as to encourage the collection of public support in time for inclusion on the 2022 ballot.

Sincerely,

*(Requires signature, printed name, & street address. Extra signatures, with indication of street address, will help us reach our goal sooner. This signed letter can be scanned and sent by email to: LC.web@oregonlegislature.gov)*