

# THE WASHINGTON VOICES ACT

## Pass the Voting Options, Implementation, Compliance, Education, and Standards Act

1

In the 2023 case *Portugal v Franklin County*, the Washington State Supreme Court confirmed that jurisdictions in Washington can adopt ranked-choice voting in order to comply with the Washington Voting Rights Act.

2

Without legislative guidance, local governments and courts considering ranked-choice voting must each independently develop their own unique methodology to implement it.

3

This bill ensures that Washington Administrative Code provides consistent and clear Rules governing the use of ranked-choice voting in Washington.

4

This bill intends to provide baseline definitions for and requirements of choose-1 primaries and top-5 ranked-choice voting general elections.



**Why ranked-choice voting?** RCV is the fastest-growing non-partisan voting reform in the country. It tamps down on negative campaigning, improves representation, and empowers voters.

Voters who try ranked-choice voting overwhelmingly report that they like it.

### WHAT IS RCV?

Politics are broken. Voters feel disempowered, communities don't feel represented, and constructive disagreement has gone out the window.

Ranked-choice voting (RCV) is a simple improvement to the way we vote. Vote for candidates in the order you prefer: 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice, and so on. If your favorite can't win, your vote counts for your next choice.

### THE FACTS

In 2008, Pierce County officials encountered financial and logistical problems in their ranked-choice voting election that was a result of mid-2000s technology and has long since been resolved.

As of 2023, nearly 13 million Americans in over 60 cities and counties, as well as the entire states of Maine and Alaska, use ranked-choice voting, and six states use it for overseas and military voters.

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for **EQUITABLE**  
REPRESENTATION

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