



Senate Majority Office

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## Oregon Senate Sends Ranked Choice Voting to the Ballot

**SALEM, Ore.** - Today, the Oregon Senate passed [House Bill 2004](#), which will ask Oregon voters to consider implementation of Ranked Choice Voting in certain elections.

If approved by voters, this legislation would:

- Allow voters to rank candidates in order of preference by establishing ranked choice voting elections for statewide and federal offices, for both primary and general elections with three or more candidates, beginning in 2028.
- Provide guidance for cities and counties to use ranked choice voting elections if they choose to implement locally.
- Create a process for county clerks to participate directly in the implementation to ensure effective and standardized implementation across Oregon, and
- Pave the way for an effective, multilingual, and culturally responsive statewide voter education campaign to ensure all voters across the state understand and are comfortable with ranked choice voting ballots.

“Ranked Choice Voting makes our elections more reflective of voter preferences,” said **Senator Janeen Sollman (D - Hillsboro)**, a chief sponsor of this legislation. “Oregon voters will now have the opportunity to create a more responsive election system while also disincentivizing the mudslinging and rancor that has become so common in campaigns.”

Several jurisdictions have implemented RCV including Takoma Park, Maryland; Santa Fe, New Mexico; and the states of Maine and Alaska. Exit polls show that the majority of voters in these areas prefer RCV to their prior system. In cities with RCV, elected leadership better reflects the diversity of the population.

Safeguarding democracy and ensuring efficient government is a key component of [Senate Democrats' 2023 Oregon Works agenda](#).

HB 2004 is one of the hundreds of bills that Senate Democrats rescued by negotiating an end to the Senate Republican walkout. Thanks to Senate Democrats showing up, doing their jobs, and

delivering results for the people of Oregon, with the concurrence of the House, HB 2004 will be submitted to the voters of Oregon for their consideration during the 2024 General Election.

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