

Dear Chair Masin and members of the Local Government Division:

Please vote yes on H.F. 89 and advance it out of your committee. I have studied Ranked Choice Voting for the last 4 years and believe it is a positive advancement for Minnesota. Politically speaking, I am a “moderate.”

This bill is broadly supported by 39 cosponsors across the state.

All citizens of Minnesota should have the opportunity to use Ranked Choice Voting in their elections. It is highly preferred because:

- It stops the spoiler problem. RCV would prevent parties from using spoiler candidates to take votes away from their opposing party. We’ve seen this happen in Minnesota.
- RCV promotes more civil campaigns, and holds elected officials accountable to more than just their base supporters since to win, the candidate must develop a broad base of support.
 - o I believe there is wisdom in the majority in a community. RCV will help to resolve the current political polarization.
- RCV opens up the opportunity for new and diverse voices to be heard.
- RCV results in voters having a broader choice of candidates.
- The Minnesota experience with RCV has been very good. Every Minnesota community deserves the opportunity to use it.

Please vote to approve H.F. 89 to pass out of committee.

Thank you, and thank you for your service to the citizens of Minnesota.

Respectfully,

Mary Pat Blake

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