

BENTON COUNTY MEASURE 2-100

RANKED CHOICE VOTING

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Blair Bobier 503.559.6176

Dan Rayfield 541.745.8874

RANKED CHOICE VOTING DRAWS SUPPORT FROM NEAR AND FAR

Measure 2-100, Benton County's pioneering Ranked Choice Voting initiative, has been drawing support and attention from near and far: from local newspapers to a Seattle think-tank, and from a neighboring county to Vermont's Howard Dean.

State Rep. Dan Rayfield, one of two Chief Petitioners for the Ranked Choice Voting initiative, said "we are gratified but not surprised by the support. People are discouraged by this election and see Ranked Choice Voting as a way to give voters more power and more choices."

The Eugene Register Guard, the daily paper for Oregon's second largest city in neighboring Lane County, just endorsed the Measure in an [editorial](#) saying it "aims to address...the spoiler effect, by instituting a system called ranked-choice voting. People elsewhere in Oregon should hope the measure passes." And, in a [recent op-ed](#), former DNC Chair Howard Dean said "Benton County can blaze the pathway in Oregon to upholding majority rule, reducing negative campaigns, giving voters more voice, and making democracy work better for all of us."

Sightline Institute, a Seattle-based nonprofit think-tank, published an [in-depth analysis](#) of Measure 2-100 entitled "This One Northwest County Could Show Us All How to Vote Better" and listed "seven ways ranked-choice voting improves our democracy."

Measure 2-100 is the only county-wide measure on the ballot in Benton County this election. If passed, it would establish Ranked Choice Voting for electing county officials in the general election. Party primaries will not be affected by the measure.

Blair Bobier, a Benton County Planning Commissioner and the measure's other Chief Petitioner, said "we're thrilled that our effort has drawn national attention but what's really significant is the backing from local trusted organizations such as the League of Women Voters of Corvallis and the Corvallis branch of the NAACP. At this point, though, the most critical support we can get is from Benton County voters. We encourage our friends and neighbors to vote 'yes' on Measure 2-100 and get their ballots turned in as soon as possible."

The Corvallis [Gazette-Times](#) and Corvallis [Advocate](#) have also endorsed Benton County Measure 2-100.