



RCV For Texas

Greater Choice, Stronger Voice

# ADOPT RANKED CHOICE VOTING IN TEXAS!

**Our elections can be better, fairer, and more representative.**

Due to the way we currently vote, democracy often fails to live up to our expectations. Partisanship, low turnout, limited choice, and a lack of accountability from elected leaders are symptoms of a flawed system.

**Fortunately, there is a better way: Ranked Choice Voting (RCV).**

## What is Ranked Choice Voting?

Ranked choice voting, also called instant runoff voting (IVR), is a nonpartisan change in voting logistics that sometimes helps Republicans and sometimes helps Democrats and always helps improve our democracy. It allows voters to vote their true preference by giving them the option of ranking candidates in order of their choice.



## How Does Ranked Choice Voting Work?

Voters rank candidates in order of preference – first choice, second choice, and so on. If a candidate gets more than half of the first-choice votes, they win just as in any other election. If no candidate gets a majority of the first-choice votes, the candidate with the fewest is eliminated and voters who picked that candidate as their first choice will have their votes count towards their second choice. This process is repeated until a candidate accumulates more than half of the votes, thus serving as an instant runoff while eliminating the additional costs and time associated with runoff elections.



## What are the Benefits of Ranked Choice Voting?

- **Reduces costs** for election administrators and for candidates by eliminating the need for runoff elections.
- **Results in candidates who win with broader support** as they work to attract voters for whom they may not be their first choice.
- **Provides more choice** as more candidates can compete without fear of splitting the vote among similar candidates resulting in the election of someone who the majority does not support.
- **Reduces negative campaigning** since candidates have reason to be more civil and issue focused as they seek to gain second or third place votes.
- **Increases turnout** as more voters cast ballots because they feel their vote is more effective.
- **Frees voters to vote their true preference** without fear of wasting their vote in order to keep a candidate they like least from winning.
- **Ensures that votes count** if people vote early or by mail even if some candidates drop out before election day.



## What Can YOU Do to Bring RCV to Texas?

In the upcoming 87<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, RCV for Texas plans to advocate for several bills that seek to:

- Allow RCV as a county option for county, municipal, and school district elections.
- Enable military and overseas voters to use RCV so their right to vote is not affected by delays in getting ballots for runoff elections.
- Adopt RCV to help sort through multiple candidates in primary elections.



**RCV for Texas needs YOU to join with us and signup to volunteer to contact your state legislators and ask them to support bills to adopt ranked choice voting in Texas!**

**Join RCV for Texas at [RCVforTexas.org](http://RCVforTexas.org)**