A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF COUNTY,, TO STOP ANY ATTEMPTS TO ENACT RANKED CHOICE VOTING.
Whereas, Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV) makes it harder to vote, harder to count the votes, and harder to ensure a transparent and accountable democratic process.
Whereas, RCV is harder for voters. An RCV ballot is longer, more complicated, and takes more time for voters to complete, meaning more delays and longer lines at polling places which could suppress turnout. It could take years to educate voters on how to properly mark ballots in such a way to not spoil their ballots and disenfranchise their vote.
Whereas, RCV is especially difficult for vulnerable voters, such as the elderly, those in long-term residential facilities, and those with learning difficulties.
Whereas, RCV is harder for election administrators, requiring expensive equipment to scan ballots and tabulate votes in RCV elections. For some jurisdictions, this requires expensive updates and retraining of staff. RCV requires multiple rounds of tabulation that cannot even begin until every single ballot is processed.
Whereas, RCV destroys transparency. RCV elections that require multiple rounds of tabulation rely on computers to make adjustments, or discard ballots in each round. There is no way to quickly confirm the accuracy of the computer processes involved. This is why, in an RCV election in California, a data entry error went undetected, and the wrong winner was certified.
Whereas, RCV weakens accountability. A recount, sometimes by hand, is required to verify the results in close or questionable elections. RCV makes this more difficult, and in some cases could make it impossible. The complexity of a multi-round RCV election, particularly if there are many candidates and hundreds of thousands of ballots, would make a hand recount impossible within the limited time required before certifying an election.
Whereas, there are efforts being made to enact Ranked Choice Voting at the local level across the country, as a way to normalize the use of RCV while pushing to expand it. These changes have led to serious election mistakes.
Therefore, we hereby adopt this resolution to be known as theCounty STOP RANKED CHOICE VOTING Resolution.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF COUNTY,, that: the Legislature and governor must enact a law prohibiting RCV in state and local elections. Without such a law, officials should oppose any attempt to adopt RCV at the state or local level.
THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED after motion, second, and majority vote favoring same, this day of . 202 .