

Senator Osten, Senator Hwang and distinguished members of the Governor's Ranked Choice Voting Working Group:

My name is Rita Burke, I am from Greenwich. I belong to my children and grandchildren and I owe them an effort to improve upon the state of our elections.

I have become disillusioned with our wasteful spending on elections at every level. I am dissatisfied with the way our politics have become like a Yankees / Red Sox sporting event pitting the good guys against the bad guys.

We need election reform. And RCV can contribute to that reform in a meaningful way.

Start where we are with primaries and municipalities, then to state elections. This will ensure that the candidate who has the greatest support wins, because a majority is required.

We can reduce negative campaigning and false accusations since candidates need to appeal to as many voters as possible.

And it will open the playing field by allowing candidates who may not have the financial resources to actually compete. Rich or adjacent rich shouldn't rule the ballot box. And they won't be just spoilers - voters can express their true support for candidates who represent them and not fear that they are throwing their vote away. Precisely the way things should work.

Thanks for your consideration and working to improve our state.

Sincerely,

Rita

Rita Burke

Greenwich, CT