

To the Government Administration and Election Committee,

I am writing to provide public testimony in your Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) hearing.

I oppose RCV.

RCV can produce winners who lack a clear mandate from the electorate.

Under RCV, it's entirely possible for a candidate who receives the most first-choice votes to lose the election after lower-ranked votes are reallocated. This process allows candidates to win based on second, third, or even fourth-choice rankings rather than on direct support from most voters. The winner of an RCV election might only have a lukewarm plurality of support rather than what has been required for the entirety of Connecticut's long existence.

My family has been participating in government here since the late 1600s — I hardly see the need for a change now!

Have a good hearing, listen to those pitching for it, and I'm sure you, too, will realize this is a solution in search of a problem.

Best,

Phil

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