

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

My name is Richard Bass. I am a resident of Hampton CT and a Professor Emeritus at UConn. I am submitting this written statement because I have been hoping for years that I would someday have the opportunity to participate in elections using ranked choice voting (RCV). Our current system of selecting candidates has become extremely flawed in its emphasis on the extreme positions of both major parties, with little chance for any third-party candidate to make a difference in the discussion, let alone get elected. RCV would open up the possibilities for voters to make more of their preferences known because they would not be voting for someone simply because the other major candidate is unacceptably extreme. And we might finally have some more intelligent discussions about policy as well as less vitriol and fewer attack ads. I strongly encourage your group to do everything you can to promote adoption of RCV

in Connecticut for all state, local and federal elections.

Sincerely,

Richard Bass

Hampton, CT

Professor Emeritus of Music Theory