

“To see if the Town will vote to authorize and request the Select Board to file Home Rule Legislation to elect Town offices by Ranked Choice Voting, or take any action related thereto.”

Ms Kavanagh moves Article 23 as printed in the handout.

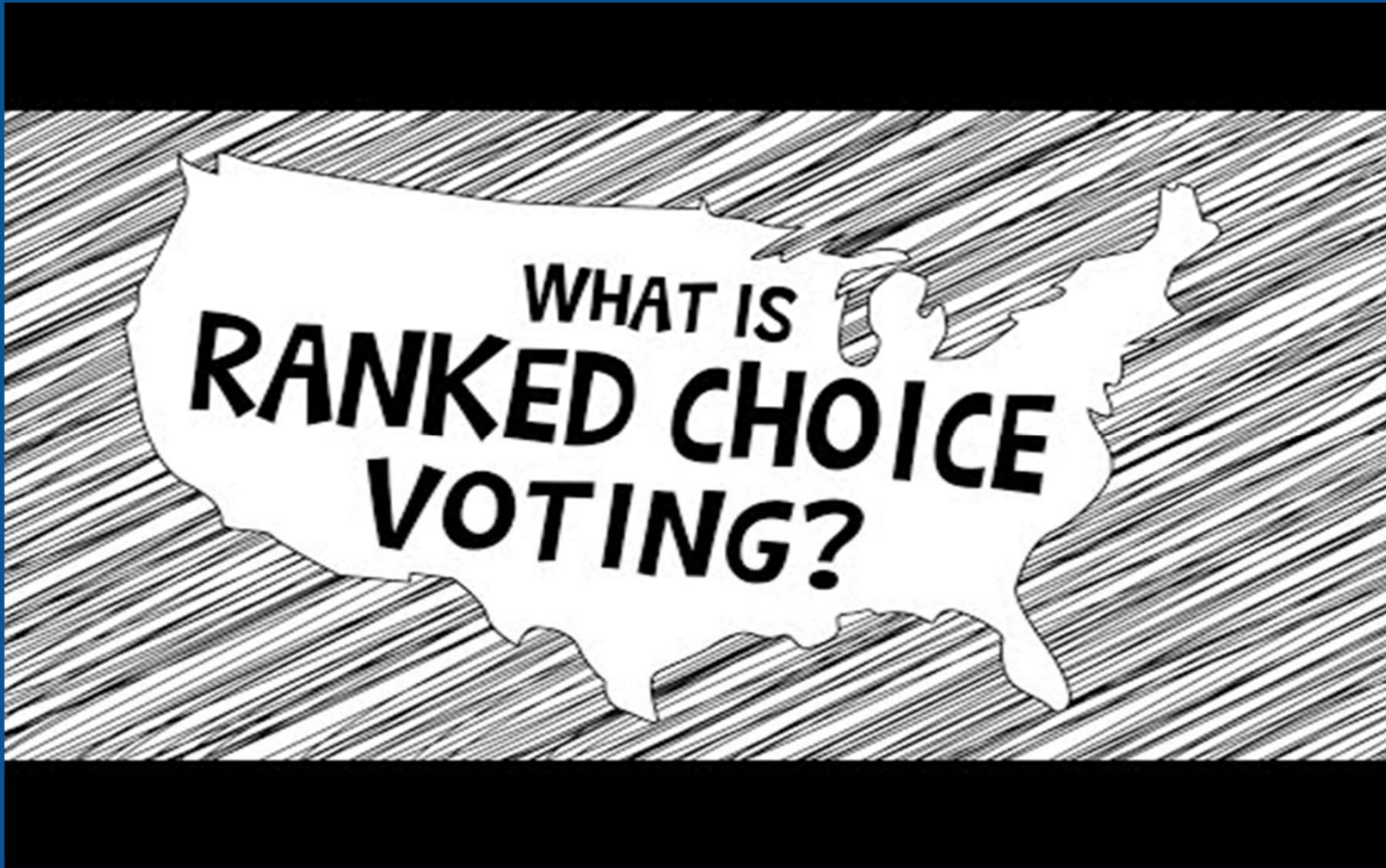
Article 23 Citizen Petition: Ranked Choice Voting for Concord Elections

Bringing RCV to Concord



Continuing our proud tradition of leading in democracy

Article 23 Citizen Petition: Ranked Choice Voting for Concord Elections



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Why RCV for Concord

- See more/a greater **diversity** of 1st time candidates
- **Prevents vote-splitting** between like-minded candidates
- Discourage **negative** campaigning
- Ensure that elected officials **represent** MAJORITY of voters
- **Inject interest and energy** into Concord town elections

RCV around the...

World

Used for years in Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland

USA

States using RCV: **Alaska & Maine**

Sweeping across cities and towns in

UT, CA, MD, NM, CO, MN, OR, NY, VT...

RCV across MA

Already in Use

Cambridge and Easthampton

Awaiting State Approval

Amherst and Arlington (and Concord if this passes)

Under Study (home rule anticipated)

Brookline, Northampton, and Somerville

Local activist efforts

Acton, Boston, Holyoke, Salem, New Bedford, Newton, and several others ...

Concord is Ready for RCV

- **Yes on 2** In 2020, 34 Concordians volunteered to gather signatures for the statewide ballot question
- **12K voted** of the 19K Concord residents
- **Yes - 61.4 / No - 38.6**
- Voting Machinery Compatibility
 - Concord - already has DS200 - **RCV compatible**
 - Some other municipalities - Accuvote - need to replace (costs associated)

What Article 23 would do

- Enact Ranked Choice Voting for town elected offices
 - Select Board, School Committee, Housing Authority, Moderator

What Article 23 would not do

- Change the current structure of elected offices
- Affect state elections or the state ballot

Current ballots in Concord

Vote for not more than ONE	
HENRY DAVID	<input type="radio"/>
LOUISA MAY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
RALPH WALDO	<input type="radio"/>
BRONSON ALCOTT	<input type="radio"/>

Vote for not more than TWO	
HENRY DAVID	<input type="radio"/>
LOUISA MAY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
RALPH WALDO	<input type="radio"/>
BRONSON ALCOTT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Ranked Choice Voting ballot: “Instant Runoff”

Rank the candidates in order of preference	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
HENRY DAVID	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
LOUISA MAY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
RALPH WALDO	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
BRONSON ALCOTT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Bipartisan & Familiar

- We rank our choices all the time:
Negotiation for the greatest good - more nuanced than binary.
 - When a family discusses buying a car and considers family members' 1st/2nd/3rd choice?
 - Playing in a fantasy sports league and creating a “draft board” ranking the players you like most?
 - Deciding where to go to eat/what toppings to get on your pizza?
- Concord voters well understand how ranked choice works.

Benefits Concord will realize

- Prevents vote-splitting between like-minded candidates
- Discourage negative campaigning
- See more/a greater diversity of 1st time candidates
- Ensure that elected officials represent MAJORITY of voters
- Inject interest and energy into Concord town elections



**Concord
Trailblazes
for
Democracy
again**

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Useful Resources

[Saving the American Electoral System: A Hymn to Ranked Choice Voting](#)

Harvard Political Review: Thursday, February 24, 2022

[History of RCV](#)

Ranked Choice Voting Resource Center

[Up-to-date stats on national usage](#)

Rank the Vote US

[Proportional Ranked Choice Voting](#)

Fair Vote

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