

# HB 1448

## WA VOICES

### Ranked-Choice Voting Options, Implementation, Compliance, Education, and Standards

Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV), where you rank candidates on your ballot, allows us to elect leaders who have support from the true majority of voters. Washington already allows many communities to adopt RCV under the WA Voting Rights Act, and Seattle is already making the switch.

In contrast to our current primary system dominated by two political parties, ranked-choice elections have been shown to encourage positive, grassroots campaigning, elect more diverse leaders, and empower voters to vote their conscience freely.

### PROBLEM:

Although Washington communities are already considering RCV, there are no statewide standards to ensure that it will be implemented well or with consistency, potentially causing chaos between jurisdictions.

### BILL SUMMARY:

The Washington VOICES Act will make sure that all communities can opt-in to Ranked-Choice Voting. It also sets important standards to ensure voters using RCV will enjoy the same high-quality, accessible voting experience that we are proud of in Washington.

### HB 1448 WILL:

- **Ease implementation:** help elections officials implement RCV well, and reduce the cost, labor, and chaos of implementing RCV county-by-county
- **Create Uniformity:** ensure ranked-choice ballots and voting experiences will be the same no matter where in Washington you live
- **Require Education:** support voters with language barriers, disabilities, or limited voting experience

Most people find ranking their choices on a ballot easy to understand, but by setting statewide standards, we make sure Ranked-Choice Voting lives up to its potential.

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