



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
(207) 287-1440
MAINE RELAY 711

Richard H. Campbell

321 River Road
Orrington, ME 04474
Dick.Campbell@legislature.maine.gov
Residence: (207) 745-7748

**Testimony on
L.D. 234, “An Act to Eliminate Ranked-choice Voting”**

**Presented by
Representative Richard H. Campbell
District 19**

Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee
Monday, February 3, 2025

Good afternoon, Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs:

I am State Representative Richard H. Campbell, and I proudly represent District 19, Eddington, Holden, and Orrington. It is an honor to appear before you today for the purpose of introducing L.D. 234, “*An Act to Eliminate Ranked-choice Voting.*”

The objective of this bill is to repeal the laws governing ranked-choice voting in primary elections for the offices of President of the United States, members of Congress, Governor, and members of the Legislature, as well as for general and special elections for congressional offices. My proposal likewise applies to general elections for presidential electors.

In talking with constituents and other voters across the State, I have become increasingly aware that many find ranked-choice voting to be complex and confusing. Citizens are unsure when the system applies or how to complete what should be a simple ballot. A growing consensus is that ranked-choice voting violates the belief in “one person, one vote,” leaving much of the electorate feeling confused and frustrated when the candidate with the most votes loses as a result of applying second choices.

Plurality voting has been accepted and worked for decades. Change for the sake of change does not always reap the desired results. Ranked-choice voting further substantiates the public’s rising mistrust in government by introducing unnecessary variables in what should be an easy process.

Thank you for your time. I ask this Committee to send L.D. 234 to the floor with a unanimous *Ought to Pass* report and restore some confidence in the validity of our elections.