

Stephanie Vary
Arundel
LD 234

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify.

I feel strongly that it would be a mistake to repeal rank choice voting! I have felt that when it has been applied, it has given me more meaningful choices outside the two major parties. It also has reduced the influence of money in politics and negative campaigning by having campaigns and special interests recognize that negative advertising is not as effective because candidates need to appeal to wider interests. And very importantly, RCV eliminates spoilers and strategic voting so I can vote for my favorite candidate, but not risk “throwing my vote away”.