Dear Joint Committee on Election Law Committee Members,

There are several Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) bills in front of your committee, including but not limited to H.869, S.531, and H.809. The following are my concerns regarding these bills.

· Voters would need to research all candidates for a particular office, including candidates they might not usually vote for, which could result in some voters not conducting the necessary research to make informed decisions.

· Some voters might find the ranking process confusing, potentially leading to incorrect rankings or decisions not to vote.

· There is a possibility that some voters might only vote for one candidate, and if that candidate is eliminated after the first round, their vote would be excluded from subsequent rounds.

· RCV involves a longer voting process and might be susceptible to errors.

· Computer tabulation would be required, making it challenging to audit the results as required by Section 301 of the 2002 Help America Vote Act.

· Hand recounts could be difficult, time-consuming, and prone to error. Counting cannot begin until all ballots are received, which is 15 days after Election Day, delaying the final election results.

· RCV may require voters to rank candidates they do not prefer. RCV was on the 2020 ballot and Massachusetts voters rejected it; 55% of Massachusetts voters opposed the adoption of RCV, while only 45% supported it.

For these reasons, I urge you to oppose these bills.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[City]

Here are the email addresses for the Joint Committee on Election Law:

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