

DRAFT RESOLUTION 2025.01.03

Supporting the Adoption of Ranked-Choice Voting for Local Elections.

WHEREAS ranked-choice voting (RCV) is a voting method that allow voters to rank their preferences among multiple candidates and ensures a majority winner, thereby eliminating the possibility of spoiler candidates, avoiding costly low-turnout primary or runoff elections, and giving voters more choice; and

WHEREAS as a charter city, the City of Sacramento can adopt RCV and the Better Ballot Sacramento coalition is advocating for the adoption of RCV in the City of Sacramento by placing a charter amendment on the ballot to permit RCV, whereas general law cities in Sacramento County cannot adopt RCV because state law currently only permits charter cities to adopt it; and

WHEREAS the 2024 Platform of the California Democratic Party states that California Democrats will “support the ability of local communities to choose alternative voting systems, such as ranked-choice voting and instant-runoff voting;”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Sacramento County supports the adoption of ranked-choice voting (RCV) for local elections within Sacramento County, and supports the efforts of the Better Ballot Sacramento coalition to win adoption of RCV in the City of Sacramento by placing a charter amendment on the ballot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Sacramento County calls for state law to be changed to permit general law cities to adopt RCV.

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