

## Ranked Choice Voting for Presidential Primaries

**WHEREAS** 25% of Washington State's Democratic presidential primary voters effectively "wasted" their vote in 2020, because they cast their ballot for a candidate who dropped out of the race before Election Day;

**WHEREAS** Washington State in the 2020 Presidential Primary election had the highest rate of "wasted" votes in the nation;

**WHEREAS** Ranked Choice Voting solves this problem of wasted votes by allowing voters to list their backup choice in case their first choice drops out or doesn't reach the threshold for allocating delegates;

**WHEREAS** the Democratic National Committee approved every Ranked Choice Voting delegate selection plan submitted in the most recent presidential cycle, and Maine is compelled by state law to use Ranked Choice Voting in their 2024 state-run presidential primary;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the 1st LD Democrats urges their Washington state representatives and senator to support the passage of legislation to allow voters to rank their partisan choices in the presidential primary, and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to our state representatives and senator and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the State Democratic Party for consideration at their next meeting.

Submitted to the 1<sup>st</sup> LD Issues Committee by Kathy Sharp, 10/5/23.

Recommended approval to General Membership by Issues Committee, 10/5/23

Adopted by the 1st LD Democrats on 10/25/2023.

Ken Lapp, Chair

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