Minnesota Senate: Elections Committee Protect and Advance Democracy Act, March 9, 2023 Representative Angie Craig (MN-02)

Chair Carlson and members of the Senate Elections Committee,

I am proud to represent Minnesota's Second Congressional District – the last truly competitive swing seat in our state. The political diversity in my district is what makes it so unique. My constituents don't think in terms of red or blue – they want a representative who will talk to them and listen to their concerns.

Over the past few years, as I've talked with folks in our communities, it has always stuck with me how many Minnesotans are resigned to the belief that, no matter what anyone does, nothing will ever change. Too few congressional districts are competitive like mine, and too few politicians in Washington, D.C. are actually listening, responding and truly representing the interests of all their constituents.

Our democracy relies on free and fair elections. We need to restore confidence in our elected officials and our government by reforming our broken campaign system. That is why I am a strong supporter of Ranked Choice Voting. Having multiple choices on the ballot will allow citizens in my district to give their first, second or even third choice for their Representative in Congress.

We already do this in many cities and even in some Congressional Districts, like my colleague Rep. Peltola's district in Alaska. Implementing Ranked Choice Voting in Minnesota would help ensure candidates are more concerned about fighting for the support of constituents rather than tearing each other down.

We could all benefit from having a little more consensus in our politics.

Ranked Choice Voting is good for democracy and good for voters.

Momentum for Ranked Choice Voting is growing across the country – in both red and blue states. It favors neither party but helps the candidate that is able to build the broadest coalition of voter support. That's what our democracy should demand – and that is why I support ranked choice voting.

Thank you for your service in the Minnesota Senate,

Angie Gaig

Angie Craig

Member of Congress