

Dear Senate Elections Committee,

My elderly father recently told me at one of our weekly family meals some funny dental advice he had heard: "Only floss the teeth you want to keep."

One could argue a similar logic with the allowance of Ranked Choice Voting: Only allow it in the democracies you want to build better consensus in.

The Cook County Board of Commissioners passed our resolution in 2022 in support of both the local option and standards for Ranked Choice Voting so that all local counties and municipalities have the right to decide if Ranked Choice Voting would benefit our local democracies. We also included support for statewide Ranked Choice Voting with the intent of building more consensus, and thereby a stronger democracy with better representation.

We have not supported a mandate to use Ranked Choice Voting, but we certainly believe local governments deserve the right to decide. We are elected leaders and arguably some of the closest to our democracies' roots: the People. Not all communities may find it best for them, but currently nearly all are not allowed to use it.

Please allow local governments to decide. Please keep the local option in SF 2270.

Thank you for your service, and here's to building a better tomorrow!

Sincerely,

Commissioner Dave Mills
Cook County, MN