



February 12th, 2025

Chair Jim Carlson
3221 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Carlson and members of the Senate Elections Committee,

My name is Lilly Sasse and I am the Campaign Director for We Choose Us, a campaign coalition of grassroots organizations, unions, and advocacy groups working to build an inclusive, multiracial democracy in Minnesota: one that is representative, responsive, and accountable to Minnesotans who should always be at the center.

Ranked choice voting (RCV) can be a significant contributing factor to making our elections more inclusive, representative, and responsive. RCV can also eliminate a low-turnout, exclusionary local primary that is a deterrent for new voices, and for underrepresented communities in particular.

The five cities that currently use RCV for their local elections—Bloomington, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, St. Louis Park and St. Paul—have demonstrated these benefits. We are seeing more competitive local races, increased turnout, and campaigns that focus on the issues that matter to voters. More candidates coming from diverse communities, backgrounds and political perspectives are running, and the city councils are becoming more diverse such that they reflect and represent the voices of all the city's citizens.

We believe local jurisdictions should be empowered to decide whether to implement RCV through a democratic process. I support the RCV Local Options bill [SF1071](#) because it would lift current statutory restrictions on cities, school districts, and counties to use RCV if they choose without having to ask the legislature for permission.

The RCV local option is one of many next steps we can take in the broader democracy reform movement to ensure our democracy is representative and responsive to the people who call Minnesota home.

Sincerely,
Lilly Sasse
Campaign Director
We Choose Us