

RESOLUTION OPPOSING RANKED CHOICE VOTING

WHEREAS, America has operated on a well-understood and relatively uniform election system that has been implemented over two hundred years to support our constitutional republic;

WHEREAS, The political parties in America have created the world's largest representative forums for debate amongst thousands of factions of American citizens all across the nation;

WHEREAS, Former Governor Asa Hutchinson, who we have previously voted to "not recommend," endorsed ranked choice voting in April, 2024, on the Purple Principle podcast;

WHEREAS, Traditional American primary and general elections ensure that voters who support one candidate, not a plurality of candidates, are heard clearly while ranked choice voting schemes open elections to 'ballot exhaustion' or the disenfranchisement of voters who choose not to support multiple candidates who do not clearly represent their values;

WHEREAS, The grassroots activists of the Republican Party of Arkansas have made it abundantly clear that they do not trust new election procedures, outcomes, and further complications of modern systems that sow additional distrust in elections and we need to keep voting simple and secure;

WHEREAS, Educating voters on the confusing processes that vary by state has cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars for educational efforts that have provided ineffective results;

WHEREAS, States and communities where ranked choice voting has been tested have consistently decreased voter participation in those communities and in many cases the elections have resulted in more discarded votes than counted votes;

WHEREAS, Ranked choice voting often results in additional tabulation delays resulting in days or weeks of additional counting while depending exclusively on technology without traceable ballots to support determined winners;

and WHEREAS, Supporters of ranked choice voting seek to eliminate or disempower party primaries;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Saline County Republican Committee stands united against the idea of ranked choice voting and similar schemes that increase election distrust, and voter suppression and disenfranchisement, eliminate the historic political party system, and put elections in the hands of expensive election schemes that cost taxpayers and depend exclusively on confusing technology and unelected bureaucrats to manage it;

and be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Saline County Republican Committee calls on the Arkansas legislature, Congress, and voters to oppose ranked choice voting in every locality and level of government.

Adopted this 2nd day of May 2024:

Chairman

Secretary