

HB 35: MUNICIPAL ALTERNATE VOTING METHODS PILOT PROGRAM
How To Implement Ranked Choice Voting In Your Municipality

HB 35:
*Municipal
Alternate
Voting Methods
Pilot Program*

- Creates a pilot program (beginning 1/1/2019) to permit a municipality to conduct nonpartisan races using instant runoff voting (ranked choice voting)
- Establishes opt in process
- Establishes requirements and procedures, including counting of votes, recounts, resolution of ties, and canvassing
- Provides a sunset date (1/1/2026)

About HB 35

Bi-partisan bill

- Bill Sponsor: Representative Marc Roberts
- Floor Sponsor: Senator Howard Stephenson
- Co-Sponsors: P. Arent, R. Chavez-Houck, J. Fawson, B. Greene, B. King, A. Robertson, M. Winder

Overwhelming support in both chambers

- House: 64-2-9 passed 2/20/2018
- Senate: 22-0-7 passed 3/8/2018
- House concurs w/Senate amendment 67-3-5 on 3/8/2018

Benefits

- **Greater voter engagement** – issues become the focus; voters become more informed; voters only have to go to the polls once
- **More civil campaigns** – Candidates seek to be first choice, but if not then second choice
- **Cost savings** – Save taxpayers' dollars by eliminating cost of an entire election; candidates only campaign for one election



How It Works: Ballot Example

- Single-winner and Multi-winner contests are presented in the same ballot format.
- Voters rank their choices in order of preference.
- Visual and written instructions voters better understand the ballot.

Instructions to Voters: Ranked Choice Voting

- Rank candidates in order of your choice. You may rank as many or as few candidates as you choose.
- Your 2nd, 3rd, and other choices will not count against your 1st choice. They will only be considered if your 1st choice does not win.
- Fill in the oval: In the 1st column for your first (1st) choice.
In the 2nd column for your second (2nd) choice.
In the 3rd column for your third (3rd) choice, and so on.
- To vote for a Write-in candidate, fill in the oval of the column of your choice and write in the name below "Write-in."
- To have your vote count, do not erase or cross out your choice. If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.





Fill in the oval completely. No more than 1 oval in a column. No more than 1 oval for a candidate.

U.S. Senator Statewide							Rep. to Congress District 1						
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice		1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice
Rank up to 6 candidates. Mark no more than 1 oval in each column.							Rank up to 6 candidates. Mark no more than 1 oval in each column.						
Crane, Ichabod City Party	<input type="radio"/>	Duck, Daisy City Party	<input type="radio"/>										
Lantern, Jack O. City Party	<input type="radio"/>	Duck, Donald City Party	<input type="radio"/>										
Patch, Pumpkin City Party	<input type="radio"/>	Goof, Goofy City Party	<input type="radio"/>										
Stein, Frank N. City Party	<input type="radio"/>	Mouse, Mickey City Party	<input type="radio"/>										
Ween, Hal O. City Party	<input type="radio"/>	Mouse, Minnie City Party	<input type="radio"/>										
Write-in _____	<input type="radio"/>	Write-in _____	<input type="radio"/>										

How It Works

- Candidates are ranked according to the voter's preference.
- If a candidate receives more than 50% of the first choice votes, the candidate is elected.
- If not, lowest vote getter is eliminated and their voters' ballots are counted for their next choice.
- Utah adopted a the same process for At-Large seats.

Please fill in no more than one oval per column and no more than one oval per candidate.

	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Cho
For Mayor 4 Year Term (Rank candidates in order of your choice)					
Washington, George	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jefferson, Thomas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hamilton, Alexander	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adams, Abigail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Implementing RCV

- What's involved? What will it cost?

Basic

- Software or voting equipment/system upgrades
- Additional ballot costs, such as coding and longer ballot, which may increase postage costs

Supplemental*

- Outreach and education for voters, candidates, and media
- Poll worker training
- Additional poll workers or other personnel

**\$0 to minimal costs if these practices are already in place.*

Implementing RCV

- Let's do the math
 - Municipality with 20,000 registered voters
 - County charges \$2 per registered voter

CURRENTLY

20,000
X \$2
=\$40,000 per election
x 2 elections
= \$80,000 TOTAL PER YEAR

With RCV

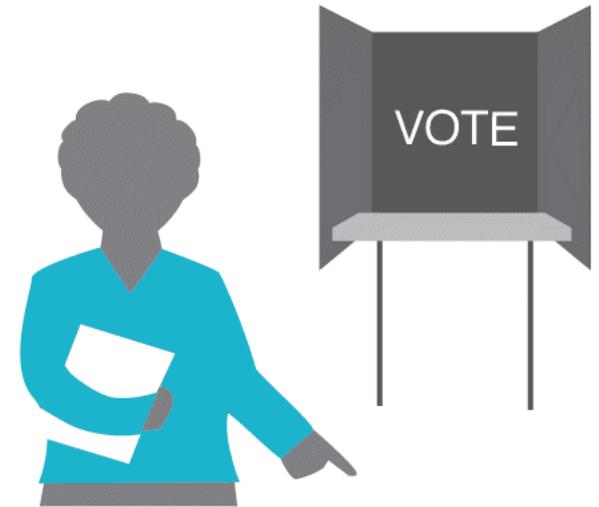
20,000
X \$2
=\$40,000 (only 1 election)
+ \$10,000 software *(may be divided with other municipalities)*
= \$50,000 TOTAL PER YEAR

May consider additional funds for voter education



Implementing RCV

- RCV ready equipment
 - Recommended system, ES&S, used in Maine (June 2018)
 - Other systems have RCV capability
 - Legacy equipment with cast vote records can be tabulated with third-party software
 - May require additional module
- Complements vote-by-mail
 - RCV yields issue oriented campaigns; voters have more time to review
 - Proven through use for military and overseas citizens; absentee-by-mail voting in other jurisdictions



Implementing RCV

- Good ballot design
 - Usability studies conducted with the Center for Civic Design
 - Notice visual and written instruction to the voter

Official Ballot Franklin County, California General Election Tuesday, November 6, 2012 2/2

Instructions for Ranked Choice Voting

Making selections
Rank candidates in the order of your choice.
You may rank as many or as few candidates as you wish.

Fill in the oval.
• In the 1st column for your 1st choice, in the 2nd column for your 2nd choice, and so on.
• In the 3rd column for your 3rd choice, and so on.

Grid Style

Fill in the oval completely. No more than 1 oval in a column. No more than 1 oval for a candidate.

Mayor
Rank up to 10 candidates.
Mark no more than 1 oval in each column.

	First choice 1st	Second choice 2nd	Third choice 3rd	Fourth choice 4th	Fifth choice 5th	Sixth choice 6th	Seventh choice 7th	Eighth choice 8th	Ninth choice 9th	Tenth choice 10th
Frederick Sharp Orange Party	<input type="radio"/>									
Luis Garcia Orange Party	<input type="radio"/>									
Charles Layne Yellow Party	<input type="radio"/>									
Andrew Kowalski Yellow Party	<input type="radio"/>									
Alex Wallace Purple Party	<input type="radio"/>									
Eric Savoy Purple Party	<input type="radio"/>									
Barbara Williams Tan Party	<input type="radio"/>									
Lillian Cohen Lime Party	<input type="radio"/>									
Ann Windsock Independent	<input type="radio"/>									
Markos Miller Silver Party	<input type="radio"/>									
Elizabeth Harp Silver Party	<input type="radio"/>									

Official Ballot Franklin County, California General Election Tuesday, November 6, 2012 2/2

Instructions for Ranked Choice Voting

Making selections
Rank candidates in the order of your choice.
Mark at least one candidate for your vote to count.

Fill in the oval...
• In the 1st column for your first choice, in the 2nd column for your 2nd choice, and so on.
• In the 3rd column for your 3rd choice, and so on.

Column Style

Correct! All 3 choices must be different. No more than one oval in a column. Don't choose the same candidate more than once.

Mayor

1 First Choice Fill in one oval	2 Second Choice Fill in one oval	3 Third Choice Fill in one oval
<input type="radio"/> Frederick Sharp Orange Party	<input type="radio"/> Frederick Sharp Orange Party	<input type="radio"/> Frederick Sharp Orange Party
<input type="radio"/> Luis Garcia Orange Party	<input type="radio"/> Luis Garcia Orange Party	<input type="radio"/> Luis Garcia Orange Party
<input type="radio"/> Alex Wallace Purple Party	<input type="radio"/> Alex Wallace Purple Party	<input type="radio"/> Alex Wallace Purple Party
<input type="radio"/> Eric Savoy Purple Party	<input type="radio"/> Eric Savoy Purple Party	<input type="radio"/> Eric Savoy Purple Party
<input type="radio"/> Barbara Williams Tan Party	<input type="radio"/> Barbara Williams Tan Party	<input type="radio"/> Barbara Williams Tan Party
<input type="radio"/> Lillian Cohen Lime Party	<input type="radio"/> Lillian Cohen Lime Party	<input type="radio"/> Lillian Cohen Lime Party
<input type="radio"/> Ann Windsock Independent	<input type="radio"/> Ann Windsock Independent	<input type="radio"/> Ann Windsock Independent
<input type="radio"/> Markos Miller Silver Party	<input type="radio"/> Markos Miller Silver Party	<input type="radio"/> Markos Miller Silver Party

Implementing RCV

ES&S ballot design used in Maine

Style No.

State of Maine Sample Ballot
Democratic Primary Election, June 12, 2018
 for

Governor	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice
Cote, Adam Roland <small>Sanford</small>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dion, Donna J. <small>Biddeford</small>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dion, Mark N. <small>Portland</small>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eves, Mark W. <small>North Berwick</small>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mills, Janet T. <small>Farmington</small>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Russell, Diane Marie <small>Portland</small>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sweet, Elizabeth A. <small>Hallowell</small>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Rep. to Congress District 2	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Fulford, Jonathan S. <small>Monroe</small>	0	0	0	0	0
Golden, Jared F. <small>Lewiston</small>	0	0	0	0	0
Olson, Craig R. <small>Islesboro</small>	0	0	0	0	0
St. Clair, Lucas R. <small>Hampden</small>	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0	0

Instructions to Voters

To vote, fill in the oval like this ●

To rank your candidate choices, fill in the oval:

- In the 1st column for your 1st choice candidate.
- In the 2nd column for your 2nd choice candidate, and so on.

Continue until you have ranked as many or as few candidates as you like.

Fill in no more than one oval for each candidate or column.

To rank a write-in candidate, write the person's name in the write-in space and fill in the oval for the ranking of your choice.

Turn Over for Additional Contests

Implementing RCV

*Dominion ballot design
used in Santa Fe*

MAYOR - RANKED CHOICE VOTING INSTRUCTIONS:

- Rank your 1st - 5th choice in the columns below.
- Vote from left to right in order of your preference.
- To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice, like this: ●

ALCALDE - INSTRUCCIONES PARA LA VOTACIÓN POR ORDEN DE PREFERENCIA:

- Marque en orden de preferencia usando las columnas del 1 al 5 abajo.
- Vote de izquierda a derecha en orden de preferencia.
- Para votar, llene completamente el óvalo correspondiente a su preferencia, de esta manera: ●

FOR MAYOR PARA ALCALDE Four (4) Year Term Plazo de Cuatro (4) Años	1st Choice 1ª Opción	2nd Choice 2ª Opción	3rd Choice 3ª Opción	4th Choice 4ª Opción	5th Choice 5ª Opción
Peter N. Ives	<input type="radio"/>				
Alan Webber	<input type="radio"/>				
Kate I. Noble	<input type="radio"/>				
Joseph M. Maestas	<input type="radio"/>				
Ronald S. Trujillo	<input type="radio"/>				

COUNCILOR - RANKED CHOICE VOTING INSTRUCTIONS:

- Rank your 1st - 3rd choice in the columns below.
- Vote from left to right in order of your preference.
- To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice, like this: ●

CONCEJAL- INSTRUCCIONES PARA LA VOTACIÓN POR ORDEN DE PREFERENCIA:

- Marque en orden de preferencia usando las columnas del 1 al 3 abajo.
- Vote de izquierda a derecha en orden de preferencia.
- Para votar, llene completamente el óvalo correspondiente a su preferencia, de esta manera: ●

FOR COUNCILOR PARA CONCEJAL DISTRICT 4 - DISTRITO 4 Four (4) Year Term Plazo de Cuatro (4) Años	1st Choice 1ª Opción	2nd Choice 2ª Opción	3rd Choice 3ª Opción
Eric John Holmes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Greg Scargall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
JoAnne Vigil Coppler	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Implementing RCV

- Voter education campaigns can be scaled to meet the municipality
 - Water bill inserts
 - Civic club presentations
 - Social media
- Partner with other organizations
 - League of Women Voters

MINNEAPOLIS
Your City. Your Vote.
vote.minneapolismn.gov

WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

- ★ **Mayor**
Approves local laws and appoints new members to city agencies and boards.
- ★ **City Council member**
Represents city wards and neighborhoods, and passes local laws.
- ★ **Park and Recreation Board members**
In charge of city parks and recreation programs.
- ★ **Board of Estimate and Taxation members**
Set property tax rates residents pay for city services.

2017 KEY DATES

Sep 22 **Vote early**
Vote by mail or in-person
September 22 to November 6.

Oct 17 **Register to vote**
Register by October 17 to save time on Election Day.

Nov 7 **Election Day**
Voting open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

HOW TO VOTE

- In this election you can rank up to 3 candidates in order of your choice.
- You can choose just 1 candidate if you don't have a 2nd or 3rd choice.
- Your 2nd and 3rd choices do not count against your 1st choice. They only count if your 1st choice does not win.

1st choice	2nd choice	3rd choice
<input type="radio"/> Lucy	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Lucy	<input type="radio"/> Lucy
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Zac	<input type="radio"/> Zac	<input type="radio"/> Zac
<input type="radio"/> Omar	<input type="radio"/> Omar	<input type="radio"/> Omar
<input type="radio"/> Asha	<input type="radio"/> Asha	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Asha

HOW IS MY BALLOT COUNTED?

1 Election officials count 1st choice votes. If a candidate gets over 50%, they win. If not, the ranked-choice counting begins in step 2.

Step 1
No candidate has over 50% of the 1st choice votes. Counting continues in step 2.

2 The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated. Those votes transfer to each voter's next choice candidate. If a candidate now has over 50% of the vote, they win.

Step 2
Zac's votes transfer to his voters' next choice candidates. Lucy is now the winner.

3 If necessary, the process in step 2 repeats until a candidate wins. In each round, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated. Only then are votes transferred to each voter's next choice of candidate (if any).

Implementing RCV

- Other keys to voter education
 - Simple handout or insert
 - Good ballot instructions

HOW TO FILL OUT YOUR IRV BALLOT

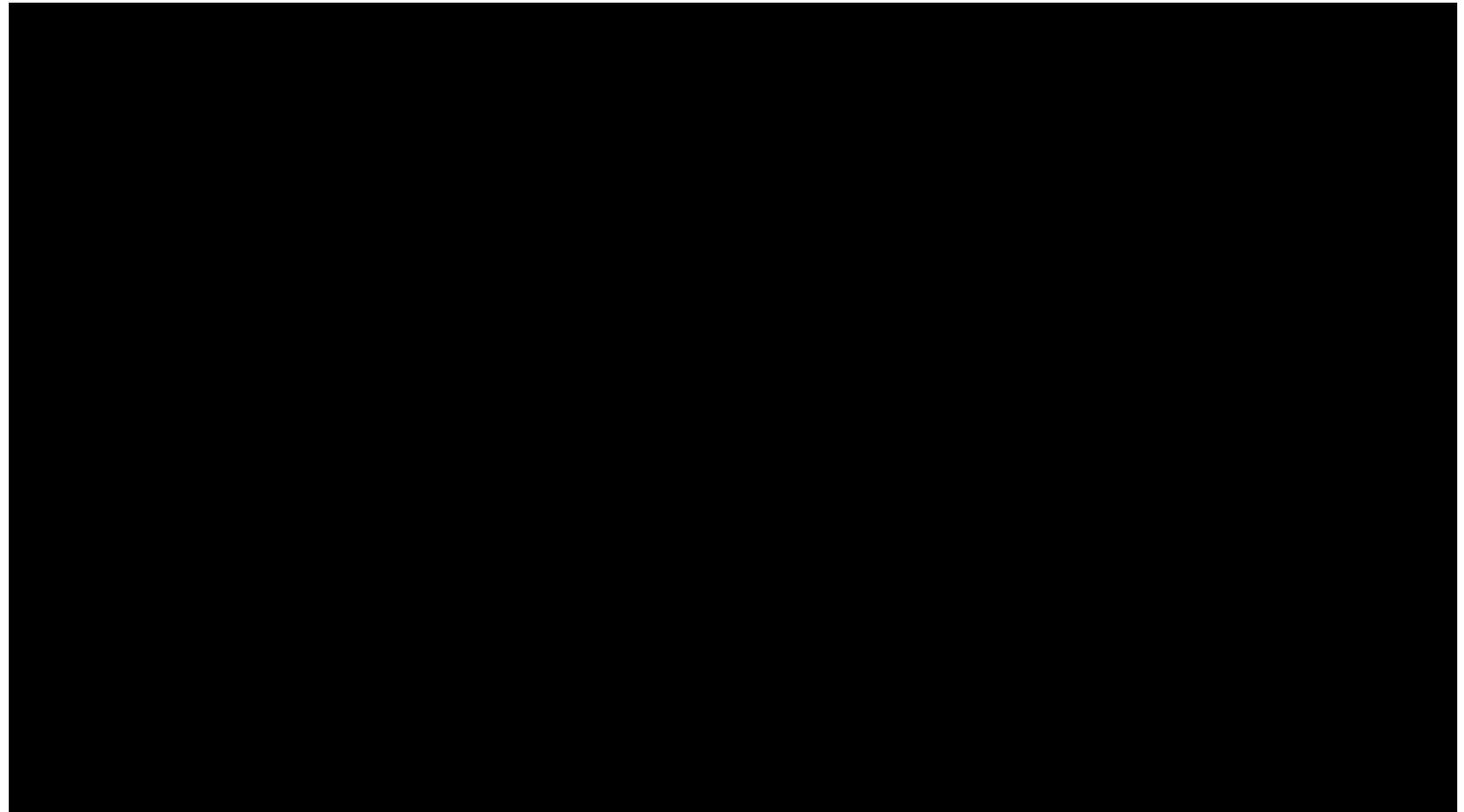
- Mark your first choice in the first column, then mark your 2nd and 3rd choices in the appropriate columns.
- Select a different candidate for each choice.
- Your 2nd and 3rd choices will not count against your first choice; they will only be considered in a runoff if your 1st choice is not in the runoff.

Fill in only one oval per choice			Your 2nd and 3rd choices will not count against your 1st choice They will only be considered in a runoff if your 1st choice is not in the runoff		
1st ↓ Mark your 1st choice here	2nd ↓ Mark your 2nd choice here	3rd ↓ Mark your 3rd choice here			
<input type="radio"/> John Adams	<input checked="" type="radio"/> John Adams	<input type="radio"/>			
<input type="radio"/> Thomas Jefferson	<input type="radio"/> Thomas Jefferson	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Thomas Jefferson			
<input type="radio"/> James Madison	<input type="radio"/> James Madison	<input type="radio"/> James Madison			
<input type="radio"/> James Monroe	<input type="radio"/> James Monroe	<input type="radio"/> James Monroe			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> George Washington	<input type="radio"/> George Washington	<input type="radio"/> George Washington			

For more information about Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) in North Carolina:
State Board of Elections, 919-733-7173 • www.sboe.state.nc.us • Your County Board of Elections

Implementing RCV

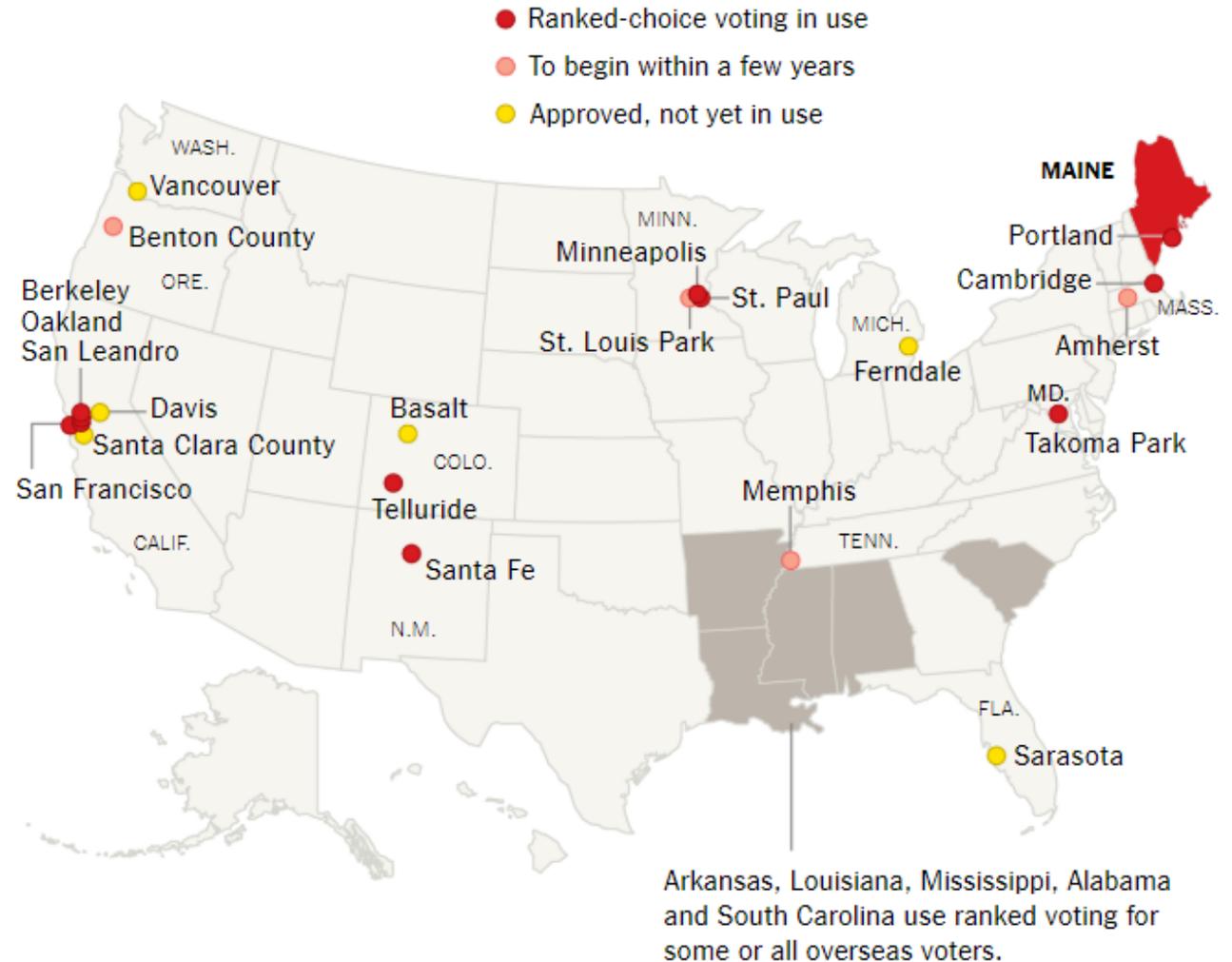
*Sample voter
education video*



Minneapolis

Implementing RCV

- Proven voting method
- Resources to build upon



By The New York Times | Source: FairVote

Recent Implementation

- Kathy Montejo, City Clerk and Registrar of Voters for Lewiston, Maine
 - Approximately 26,500 registered voters
 - Administered first ranked choice voting election in June 2018



Mock Election Results



Pecan



Blueberry



Apple



Pumpkin

Next Steps

- Provide notice to Lt. Governor's Office
 - Before January 1 of odd-numbered year
 - State intent to participate and election year
 - Signed by election officer of municipality stating the municipality has the resources and capability necessary



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