

Ranked Choice Voting Act of 2024

Section-by-Section Summary

SECTION 1. Short Title; Finding Of Constitutional Authority.

SECTION 2. Requiring Ranked Choice Voting For Election Of Senators And Representatives.

Title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 is amended by adding at the end:

PART 1—Requiring Ranked Choice Voting for Election of Senators and Representatives.

- Each State shall carry out elections for the office of Senator and the office of Representative in Congress, including primary, special, and general elections for such office, using ranked choice voting.
- No State may hold a separate runoff primary, general or special election for the office of Senator or the office of Representative in Congress.
- A State may hold a nonpartisan blanket primary election for the office of Senator or the office of Representative in Congress only if State law provides that at least 3 candidates advance to the subsequent general election.

PART 2—Tabulation Process.

- Each ballot cast in the election shall count as one vote for the highest-ranked active candidate on the ballot.
- If there are more than two active candidates, the active candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, each vote cast on a ballot for the eliminated candidate shall be counted for the next-ranked active candidate on the ballot, and a new round shall begin.
- This section also addresses the treatment of undervotes, inactive ballots, and skipped or repeated rankings, as well as rules for nonpartisan blanket primary elections.

PART 3—Payments to States to Implement Ranked Choice Voting.

- The amount determined under this paragraph is the product of:
 - the number of individuals registered to vote in elections for Federal office in the State, and
 - the per capita payment amount for each State that may be no less than \$4 and no more than \$8, taking into account any reasonable demonstrated or estimated costs associated with the use of ranked choice voting.

PART 4—Civil Enforcement.

- The Attorney General may bring a civil action for such relief as may be appropriate to carry out this subtitle.
- Any person residing or domiciled in a State who is aggrieved by the failure of the State to meet the requirements of this subtitle may bring a civil action.
- Any action arising under this subtitle shall be heard by a 3-judge district court convened pursuant to section 2284 of title 28, United States Code. A final decision in an action brought under this section shall be reviewable on appeal by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, which shall hear the matter sitting en banc.
- If final adjudication of an action under this subtitle is not reasonably expected to be completed at least 3 months prior to the next regularly scheduled primary election for the House of Representatives or Senate in the State, the district court shall order adjustments to the timing of primary elections for the House of Representatives or Senate and other related deadlines, as needed, to allow sufficient opportunity for adjudication

PART 5 — Definitions.

 This subtitle contains the following definitions: active candidate, highest-ranked active candidate, ranking, withdrawn candidate, and nonpartisan blanket primary election.

SECTION 3. No Effect On Elections For State And Local Office.

Nothing in this Act or in any amendment made by this Act may be construed to affect the manner in which a State carries out elections for State or local office.

SECTION 4. Severability.

SECTION 5. Effective Date.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall apply with respect to elections for Federal office held on or after January 1, 2027.