

# RANKED-CHOICE VOTING

*How RCV Has FAILED Maine Voters*

**61%** of RCV elections nationwide fail to produce a true majority winner

**49.18%** was Jared Golden's "majority" that won the RCV race in 2018

Maine has elected governors and legislators by **plurality (most votes wins)** for more than two centuries, because that's what the **Maine Constitution requires**.

In 2016, voters approved ranked-choice voting (RCV) for certain races. Under RCV, if no candidate tops 50%, the last-place finisher is eliminated, and their voters' second choices are redistributed until someone crosses that threshold – **theoretically**.

In 2017, the Maine Supreme Judicial Court **unanimously** agreed RCV is unconstitutional for state races, since the Constitution requires plurality winners. **Maine now runs two different voting systems on the same ballot**: RCV for federal races and primaries, plurality for governor and the legislature.

Worse, RCV's promised majority is fiction. Voters who don't rank every candidate can end up with "exhausted ballots" which are **removed from the final counting pool**... In 2018, Jared Golden won Maine's first RCV congressional race with just 49% of ballots cast. Nationally, **six-in-ten** RCV winners fail to earn over 50% of the vote.

## The Bottom Line:

### **RCV IS BAD FOR MAINE**

Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV) was sold as a way to give voters more voice. In practice, it is confusing and throws away votes. Maine's own Supreme Court called it unconstitutional.

## The Solution:

1. Repeal Ranked-Choice Voting wholesale.
2. Ban Ranked-Choice Voting statewide, following the example of 17 other states.