

Sen. White,

Yesterday I sent you a document with specific priorities for the “vote by mail” concept. Below you’ll find additional elections priorities of VPIRG. Two are related to ranked choice voting (a potential charter change for Burlington and a separate bill calling for ranked choice voting for federal office races). The other two priorities mirror S.47 and S.32 from last year. We think that those two concepts might go well together as one bill. Both passed the Senate last session.

Thanks again for your consideration.

Best,  
Paul

### **Ranked Choice Voting**

Ranked choice voting will be on the ballot in Burlington in March 2021. VPIRG is supporting that measure and will urge the Legislature to **approve the proposed charter change** if Burlington voters pass it.

VPIRG also supports the use of **ranked choice voting for all federal races in Vermont**, to be implemented beginning in 2024. This would include primaries and general elections for Congress, U.S. Senate and President.

### **Ban Corporate Campaign Contributions and Modernize Vermont’s Public Campaign Finance System**

In order to limit the influence of special interests over our elections, VPIRG supports a **ban corporate contributions to candidates** (similar to S.47, which passed the Senate in the 2019-2020 session).

VPIRG would like to see last session’s ban on corporate contributions combined with the elements of S.32, which also passed the Senate last session. That bill would have tasked the Secretary of State with conducting **a study of ways to invigorate Vermont’s limited public financing system**. This study should look specifically at Seattle’s Democracy Dollars program, as well as other high functioning public financing systems around the country. It could potentially be done in the summer of 2021.