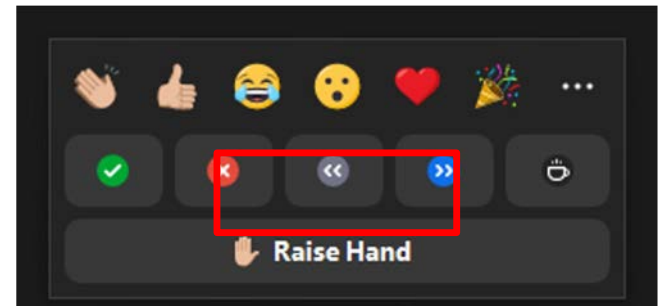
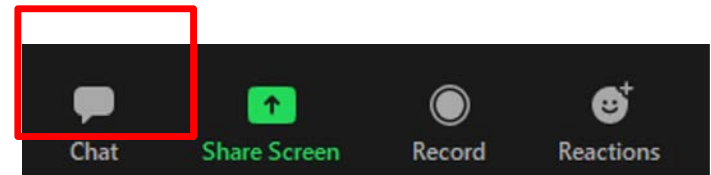




# Money in Politics & Elections

- Introduce team
- Brief outlook of legislation for 2024
- Opportunities for action
- This will be a high-level overview.

Type questions in the Chat or raise your hand during Q&A at end



# Guest Speakers



- **Nilu Jenks & Lisa Ayrault, FVW**
  - WA VOICES Act - Statewide Standards for RCV



- **John Bonifaz, President of Free Speech for People**
  - Ending Foreign Influenced Corporate Money in Our Elections



# **WA VOICES Act**

## **Voting Options, Implementation, Compliance, Education, and Standards**

Nilu Jenks, Political Director, FairVote Washington  
Lisa Ayrault, Executive Director






# **WA State Supreme Court**

June 2023, on the

## **Washington Voting Rights Act**


In *Portugal v Franklin County*, the Court confirmed that jurisdictions in Washington can adopt ranked-choice voting in order to comply with the WVRA





**Without legislative guidance, local governments and courts considering ranked-choice voting must each independently develop their own unique methodology to implement it.**





The WA VOICES Act ensures that  
Washington Administrative Code  
provides  
consistent and clear Rules governing the  
use of **ranked-choice voting** in  
Washington.





The WA VOICES Act intends to provide baseline definitions for and requirements of **ranked-choice voting** elections.







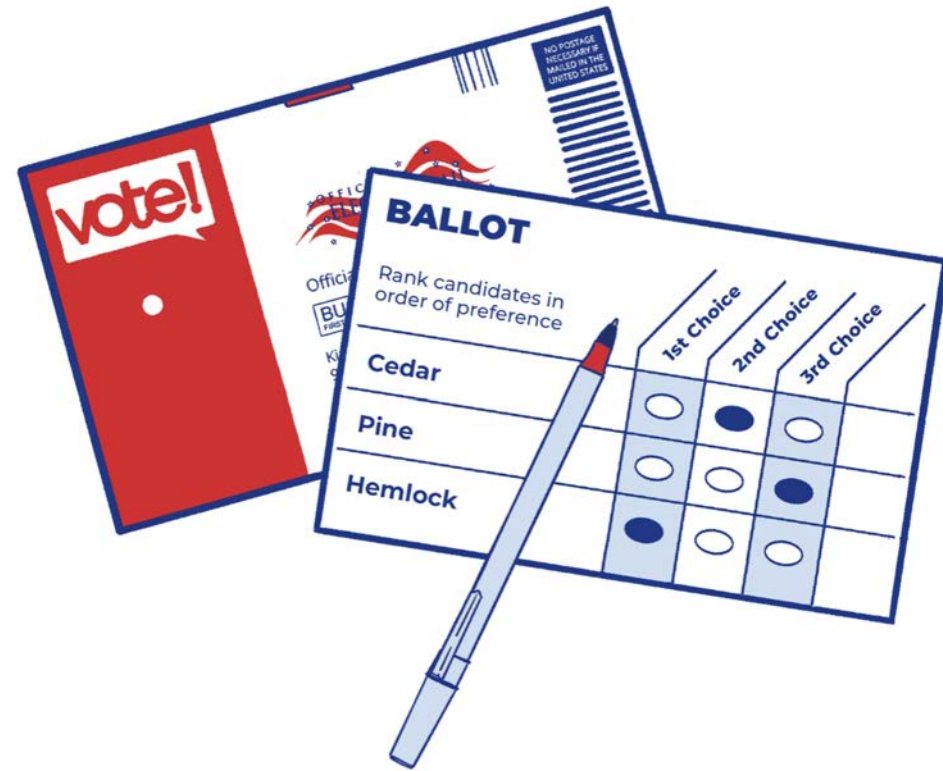
# The WA VOICES Act establishes Two Workgroups

- Rules
- Education



# What is Ranked Choice Voting?

- *Vote for your favorite, just like always*
- *Then rank your backups, if you want*



# Why Ranked-Choice Voting?

RCV is the fastest-growing non-partisan voting reform in the country.

- Tamps down on negative campaigning
- Improves representation
- Empowers voters
- Voters who try RCV overwhelmingly like it



HAMBURGERS  
67%

HOTDOGS  
20%

PIZZA  
13%





# Join us for RCV Lobby Day!

Wednesday, January 17, 2024  
Olympia

Learn more at [www.fairvotewa.org](http://www.fairvotewa.org)



# Questions?



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Thank you

**[fairvotewa.org](http://fairvotewa.org)**



# Statewide Public Funding of Elections Democracy Voucher Program

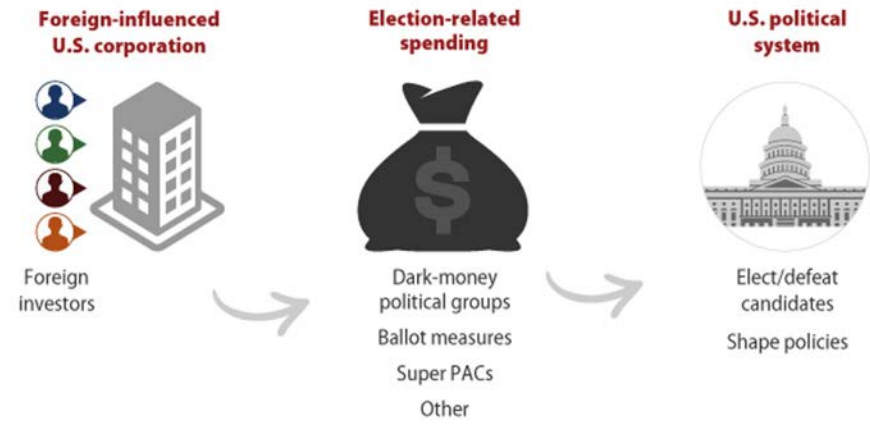


- People Powered Elections Washington Coalition
- Statewide Democracy Voucher Program
- Legislation introduced (**HB 1755**) & will be updated in next session
- Would cover Legislative District elected positions
- Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) to oversee program
- Possible funding options - lobbying fees & fines



# Ending Foreign Influenced Corporate Money in WA Elections

How foreign-influenced U.S. corporations spend in U.S. elections



- Statewide bill to ban foreign influenced corporations from donating in WA State elections
- 1% Single Foreign Owner or 5% Combined Foreign Ownership
- Seattle passed a similar ordinance in January 2020
- Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) would oversee





# Addressing Harassment Against Election Officials



- The Cyber Harassment Bill passed in 2022 makes harassing election officials electronically a class C felony.
- However, harassing in-person, or in a written letter is still a misdemeanor.
- **HB 1241** makes the punishment the same regardless of the means of delivering threats.



# ACT Via Zoom



- Mondays, 10 - 11 am from January 8 - March 11
- Open to League members and guests
- League, state and community presenters with background for legislative topics
- Register on **LWVWA.org**: Events, Jan. 2024 Calendar page
- Recorded sessions on LWVWA YouTube channel



# Volunteer Opportunities

- **Survey the legislative session:** search in **Leg.WA.gov** for bills of significance to money in politics and elections concerns and perform a preliminary evaluation for bills of interest.
- **Legislative bill evaluation** – read bill text and related documentation and summarize in terms of LWVWA and LWVUS policy positions; recommend for or against position. Monitor progress through the legislative process. **This is a fast-paced activity.**
- **Fact checking** – positions of some other organizations can seem extreme and may use dubious facts. Determine what is true and what is false.
- **What would you like to do?**





## Need more info?

- Questions • Clarifications • Discussion
- What do you need from the Lobby Team?

Contact: [cmadigan@lwwa.org](mailto:cmadigan@lwwa.org)

