



Elevator Pitch for Canvassing

[Make sure to bring a signup sheet and [sample ballot](#) when you go out canvassing.]

Please introduce yourself to the precinct judge and explain that you are there as a volunteer for RCV and hope to talk to voters as they leave about bringing RCV to Texas.

Look and see where voters are exiting and find a comfortable place to stand. Please do not take any negative response to your approach personally. Be polite and move on.

Make the below script comfortable for you. The objective is to introduce the concept of RCV and sign people up for more information.

Hi! Have you heard of Ranked Choice Voting? [offer a flyer]

Ranked Choice Voting is a ***nonpartisan change*** to the way we currently vote.

Now when you vote, you vote for one candidate.

With Ranked Choice Voting, you have the option to rank candidates in order of your preference: first, second, third, and so forth. If your first choice doesn't earn at least 50% of the votes, your vote automatically transfers to your second choice, and so on.

This "instant runoff voting" means

- You won't have to return to the polls again.
- You won't have to listen to more campaign ads!
- You'll know the winner a lot sooner.
- And it will cost taxpayers and candidates less.

Does Ranked Choice Voting sound like something you can get behind?

[If in Austin, note that voters already approved RCV in 2021 and now we need to convince the state legislature to allow it]

Supporter Ask

Will you sign up to stay in touch? Will you call or email your legislators when you get home to let them know you support ranked choice voting? We promise not to inundate

you with email messages but will stay in touch with a monthly newsletter. [pass them the clipboard if they say yes]

Volunteer Ask

At the end you'll see a checkbox for volunteering: there are lots of ways to help our efforts, one of which is to talk to people and sign them up just like this. Would you like to sign up to volunteer? [point to the checkbox to volunteer]

Additional Information

Here's why this is important: Now, if you want to select someone who isn't the front-runner, people will tell you that you're "wasting" your vote. Have you heard that before? **[Pause for reply.]** Well with RCV, you're empowered to choose who you *really* want to vote for and list others who you support in order of your preference.

Now think about this from the candidate's perspective: Now we implore candidates to "drop out because you're going to 'split the vote.'" But with RCV, we can encourage more people to run for office and bring their ideas to the table. As voters, we'll have more choice.

Use the flyer for your talking points for Ranked Choice Voting / Instant Runoff Voting

- **Saves money:** Eliminates the additional costs and time associated with runoff elections.
- **Greater choice:** More candidates can compete without fear of splitting the vote resulting in the election of someone voters like least.
- **Stronger Voice:** More voters cast ballots because they feel their vote is more effective.
- **Less Negative Campaigns:** Candidates have reason to be more civil and issue-focused due to the possibility of gaining second or third choice votes.
- In **special elections**, constituents are unrepresented for a shorter time because the first-round election is definitive.
- **RCV is gaining momentum around the U.S.:** Now used in Maine, Alaska, and about 50 cities around the U.S. Can be used for different types of elections such as party primaries, local nonpartisan elections, or general elections at different levels of government. It is being adopted in red and blue states and is truly a nonpartisan change in voting logistics that helps elect people with broader voter support.
- **Minimizes strategic voting:** Voters can honestly rank candidates in order of preference and not just vote against the candidate they oppose most who they fear might win.