

Proposition 131 will give voters better choices

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Letter to the Editor
Grand Junction Daily Sentinel
October 19, 2024

I'm so glad we are going to have a chance to vote on ranked choice voting (Proposition 131).

It gives us much more choice. It prevents situations like one where most voters, for example, are conservative, but two conservative candidates split the vote, so the liberal wins. It makes sure the candidate favored by most of the voters wins.

You could still vote for a third-party candidate without wasting your vote, because if that person doesn't get enough votes, you then get to vote for your backup candidate. Most people who voted for Patrick Buchanan in 2000, for example, would have preferred George Bush over Al Gore, but didn't have any way to make that vote. Ranked choice voting gives them that choice!

You hear lots of comments like, "I don't like either of the candidates." With ranked choice voting, you get to vote for whoever you want, but still get a backup vote.

Ranked choice voting also helps focus on the issues — instead of having just two parties, "us vs. them" and having campaigns where candidates just bash each other, people would get to hear about candidates' positions. It would avoid the current situation where candidates cater to extreme elements of their party and then we wonder why nothing gets done!

As Colorado's Republican state Rep. Matt Soper recently pointed out, more than 50 places in the country are already using ranked voting systems, which are simple to use and result in much better voter participation. He also points out that ranked choice voting is supported by people from Ken Buck to Jared Polis!

I look forward to getting to really have a choice! Please join me in voting for Proposition 131, Ranked Choice Voting!

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