

HB 463 -- Instant Runoff Voting

Sponsor: Zimmerman

This bill establishes procedures for instant runoff voting and the counting of ranked-choice ballots. Any municipality or political subdivision may conduct instant runoff voting or use ranked-choice ballots. Generally, if there is no simple majority winner, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and the process continues by counting the votes for the next most preferred candidate on those ballots where the eliminated candidate was the top choice. The process continues until a winner by simple majority emerges or a tie results. The procedure for breaking ties will remain the same as specified in Chapter 115, RSMo. If necessary, election officials may limit the number of choices a voter may rank to three. Write-in votes will still be allowed.

Instant runoff voting and ranked-choice ballots will be governed by general election laws. Any challenges to an instant runoff election must first be appealed to the Secretary of State for a final order and may then be appealed to any court of competent jurisdiction.