



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 13 2019

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 212 without my signature.

This bill authorizes general law cities, counties, and school districts to conduct a local election using ranked choice voting.

Ranked choice is an experiment that has been tried in several charter cities in California. Where it has been implemented, I am concerned that it has often led to voter confusion, and that the promise that ranked choice voting leads to greater democracy is not necessarily fulfilled. The state would benefit from learning more from charter cities who use ranked choice voting before broadly expanding the system.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom