



## Preserve Local Elections

[vote-no-ranking-ban.org](http://vote-no-ranking-ban.org)

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On November 5, Missourians state-wide will vote on Amendment 7, put on the ballot by the Missouri legislature. Its title is "Missouri Require Citizenship to Vote and Prohibit Ranked-Choice Voting Amendment."

There's a natural inclination to assume the topic of the measure is the first thing mentioned in its title and summary: non-citizen non-voting in the state constitution rather than merely current statutes. However, legislators have been clear the reason this topic is first --as Sen. Rick Brattin put it, "we wanted to make sure we're putting stuff in front of people that's easy, that doesn't require \$60 million to try to get the message out." (The [Missouri Independent](#), May 17, 2024).

This idea has been called "[ballot candy](#)." It's expected to draw yes votes without voters paying attention to the actual point. The purpose of the measure, as seen in floor debate, is primarily to ban ranked choice voting - that is, to ban localities from being able to vote for whether or not they wish to use that form of voting.

While including both topics from the ballot title could be accurate as to what the amendment will do, focusing only on the first and leaving out the ban on ranking would give voters the wrong impression about the measure.

If this measure is defeated, that doesn't mean ranked choice voting will happen. It only means that voters can decide for their locality if they wish to have it.

[Preserve Local Elections](#), Greg Swartz, Treasurer