

1 H.508

2 Introduced by Representatives Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Bluemle of
3 Burlington, Cina of Burlington, Headrick of Burlington, Logan
4 of Burlington, Ode of Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington,
5 Stebbins of Burlington, and Stone of Burlington

6 Referred to Committee on

7 Date:

8 Subject: Municipal government; municipal charters; City of Burlington;
9 amendment

10 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to amend the
11 charter of the City of Burlington to authorize the election of Mayor, school
12 commissioners, and ward election officers by a system of ranked choice
13 voting.

14 An act relating to approval of an amendment to the ranked choice voting
15 provisions of the charter of the City of Burlington

16 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

17 Sec. 1. CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROVAL

18 The General Assembly approves an amendment to the charter of the City of
19 Burlington as set forth in this act. Voters approved the proposal of amendment
20 on March 7, 2023.

1 Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 3 is amended to read:

2 CHAPTER 3. CITY OF BURLINGTON

3 * * *

4 § 5. ELECTION TO BE BY BALLOT; METHOD OF ELECTION; RUNOFF
5 ELECTIONS

6 ~~(a) The election of the Mayor and school commissioners shall be by ballot,~~
7 ~~and the person or persons receiving a plurality of all votes cast for any office~~
8 ~~aforsaid shall, except as hereinafter provided, be declared elected thereto.~~
9 ~~However, if no person receives at least 40 percent of all votes cast for any~~
10 ~~office aforsaid, no one shall be declared elected and a runoff election shall be~~
11 ~~held. The only candidates in the runoff election shall be the two persons~~
12 ~~receiving the greater number of votes or, in case of a tie, the persons receiving~~
13 ~~the greatest number of votes or the persons receiving the second greatest~~
14 ~~number of votes. The Chief Administrative Officer shall within seven days~~
15 ~~warn a runoff election to be held not less than 12 days nor more than 20 days~~
16 ~~after the date of the warning. The warning shall be published in a newspaper of~~
17 ~~general circulation in the City and posted in a public place. The person or~~
18 ~~persons receiving a plurality of all the votes cast in a runoff election shall be~~
19 ~~declared elected.~~

20 (b) All elections of the Mayor, City Councilors, school commissioners, and
21 ward election officers shall be by ballot, using a system of ranked choice

1 voting without a separate runoff election. The Chief Administrative Officer
2 shall implement a ranked choice voting protocol according to these guidelines:

3 * * *

4 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

5 This act shall take effect on passage.