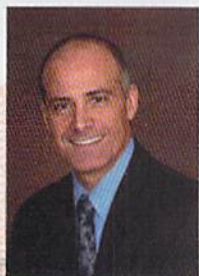


Tampa Matters!

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Ranked Choice Voting will Make Elections Great Again!

Would you be happy if you could only choose between 2 car makers? How about 2 restaurant chains? Would only 2 insurance companies work for you? If the answer is no, then you should not be satisfied with just 2 political parties.

If only 2 companies had a duopoly in a particular industry, the government would intervene to require more competitors. But, that is not happening in politics, because the intervention goes against their own self-interest. Each party would create a monopoly if it could get away with it, but they can't, so they settle for just one competitor and create a barrier-to-entry so high for a third-party candidate that voters aren't willing to throw away their votes on them.

There was a time when the two parties significantly overlapped (*PeoplePress.org: 6/12/14*). Center Republicans and Democrats were ideologically similar and they worked well together. Those days are gone. The center is lacking party members.

And, there are consequences from this movement to the extremes by the two parties. Since a low in 2000, Independents have increased to make up 40% of all voters! (*PeoplePress.org: 4/7/15*). The parties are bleeding members in the middle.

Third parties are needed to bring our leaders back to the rational center. Voters need credible choices. But, how can this be done?

The answer is Ranked Choice Voting. The entire State of Maine now uses RCV. It allows voters to pick their first, second, third, etc. choice. If their first pick is eliminated, then they get their second pick. That way their vote always counts, even if their first choice is a 3rd party or Independent candidate.

RCV will also civilize candidates because negative campaigning will chase away voters to alternative choices. And, rational leaders who sit out of today's gated election process will jump in because they have a chance to win. In addition, it will save us money, because it eliminates expensive run-offs.

To learn more go to: fairvote.org/rcv. If Maine can do it, we can too. Email me if you think RCV is the way to go in Tampa and beyond! www.CyrilSpiro.com, cyril@cyrilspiro.com