

BENTON COUNTY INITIATIVE: BEN-2016-001

The People of Benton County adopt the following Amendment to the Benton County Charter:

A new Section shall be added to Chapter VII Elections, to read as follows:

Section 25. Method of Election.

- (1) Elected officers of the County shall be elected in the general election, and at any special election, by a process of ranked choice voting, also known as instant runoff voting or the alternative vote.
 - (a) The County Commissioners shall, by ordinance, establish rules necessary for the orderly administration of the election as soon as practicable but not later than one hundred twenty days prior to the first election using ranked choice voting.
 - (b) Within sixty days of the passage of the initiative establishing this Section 25 of the Charter, the County shall request not more than \$200,000 in funding from the State and, if necessary, other sources, to pay for the initial implementation of ranked choice voting, which shall include an initial education campaign for County voters. The County Clerk shall implement ranked choice voting at the first general election held twelve months or more past the date funding is secured, and at each general and special election of elected officers thereafter.