Women Win With the Fair Representation Act
March 2024

Women are essential to a healthy democracy. Women work collaboratively across party lines, have a variety of lived experiences, and take unique approaches to policy-making.

The **Fair Representation Act (FRA)** would (1) implement ranked choice voting (RCV) for all U.S. House elections, (2) create multi-member U.S. House districts, and (3) establish an independent redistricting commission to combat gerrymandering. **This is critical to leveling the playing field for women candidates and reaching gender-balanced governance.**

(Proportional) Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) as a Solution
RCV allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference. RCV benefits women by:

- **Mitigating vote splitting and the spoiler effect.** Women are more often told to "wait their turn." In RCV elections, multiple women can run without splitting the vote.
- **Increasing campaign civility and voter-candidate engagement.** RCV incentivizes issue-focused campaigning so candidates can prioritize voter concerns.
- **Removing the need for costly runoff elections.** Voters' second and third choices are counted immediately, which benefits women, who often need to outraise men to win.
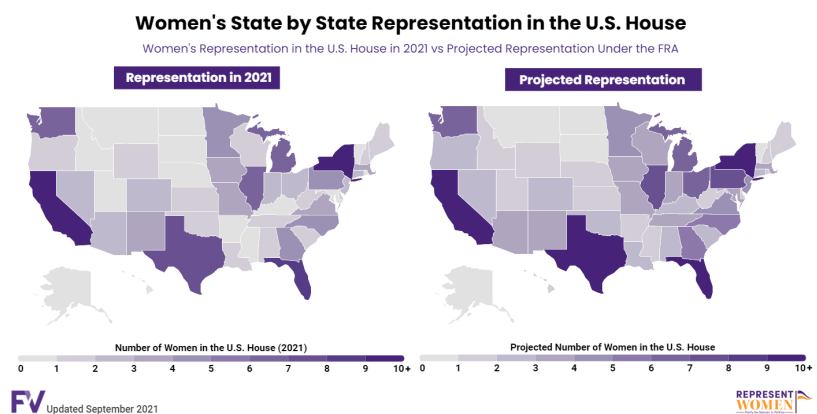
*"Ranked choice voting is gaining popularity because it's giving people a better voice in their democracy. **People can vote for the candidates they align with instead of being forced to vote defensively every election. RCV makes our democracy stronger.** That's why I support it."*

– Representative Mary Peltola, Alaska

The Fair Representation Act: Combining RCV and MMDs (PRCV)
A [2021 analysis](#) by RepresentWomen and FairVote found that if the FRA were passed, women would increase their representation by roughly 40% in the U.S. House. **The FRA,** which implements PRCV, **amplifies voter power, allowing voters to elect candidates of choice, including women.**

Women's State by State Representation in the U.S. House
Women's Representation in the U.S. House in 2021 vs Projected Representation Under the FRA

Representation in 2021

Projected Representation

Number of Women in the U.S. House (2021)
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10+

Projected Number of Women in the U.S. House
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10+

FV Updated September 2021

REPRESENT WOMEN

***RepresentWomen** is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization dedicated to identifying the best strategies for increasing women's political representation and leadership.*