



**WHY ADD  
COMMISSIONERS?**

*N.D. Senators represent about **14,000** citizens each.*

*We have one City of Fargo Commissioner for every **24,000** citizens.*

*Adding two commissioners will bring that down to **17,000**.*

**WHAT IS  
APPROVAL VOTING?**

*Our current method of voting is the least constructive method of voting and the most common.*

- Mayor Bruce Furness

**Professor Plum**



**Professor Plum**



Professor Plum



Professor Plum

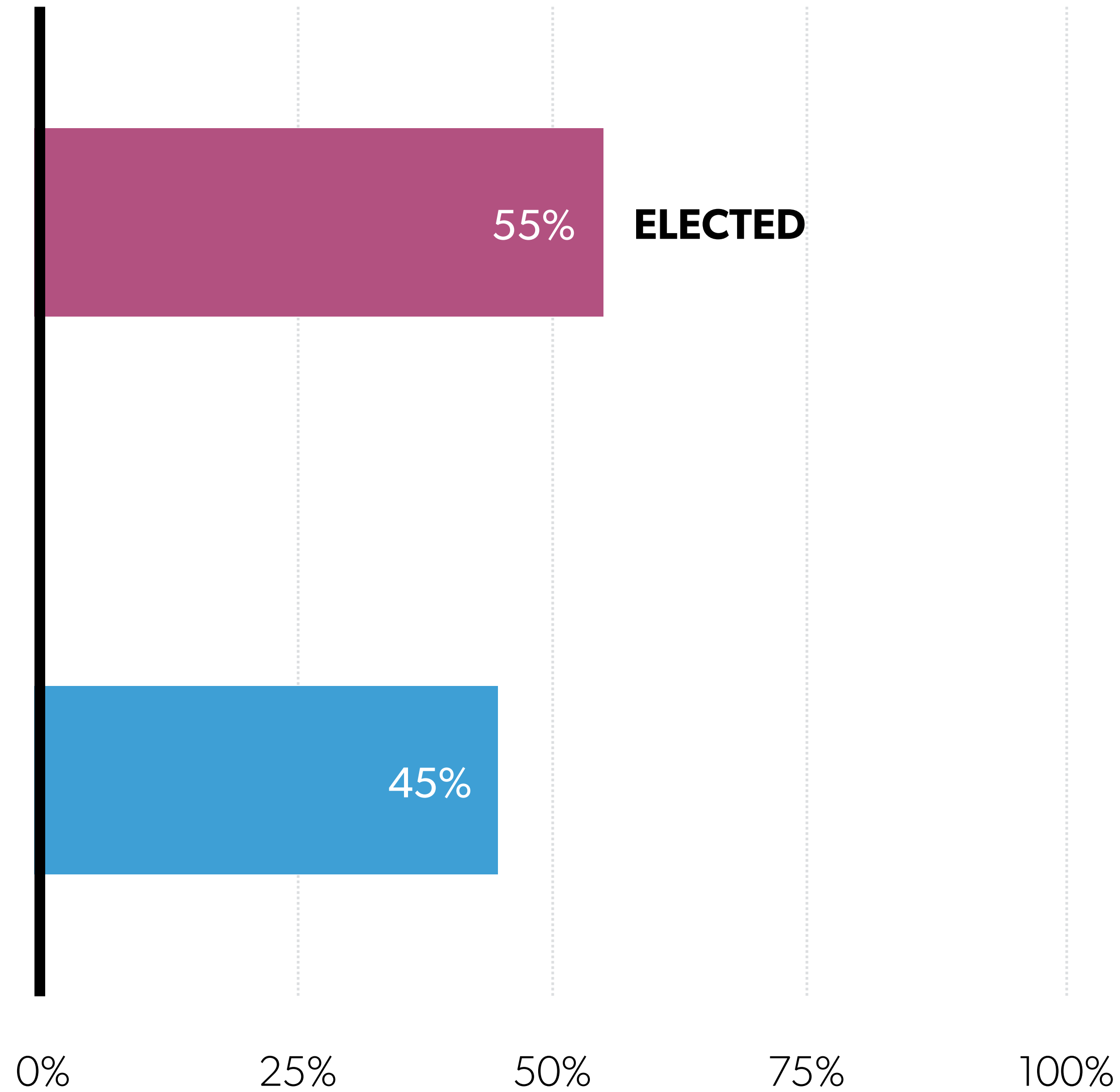
Mrs. Peacock



Mrs. Peacock



# The Last Election





Professor Plum



Professor Plum

Mrs. Peacock



Mrs. Peacock



Miss Scarlet



Miss Scarlet

Professor Plum



Professor Plum

Mrs. Peacock



Mrs. Peacock



This Year's Election



0%

25%

50%

75%

100%



# This Year's Election



11%



44%



45%

**ELECTED**

0%

25%

50%

75%

100%

# The *Spoiler Effect*

If fewer of  
**Scarlet's supporters**  
**had voted sincerely,**  
**they** would have received  
a better result



If fewer of  
**Scarlet's supporters**  
**had shown up,**  
**they** would have received  
a better result

Why not just  
have a **runoff**, or switch to a  
**primary-general**?



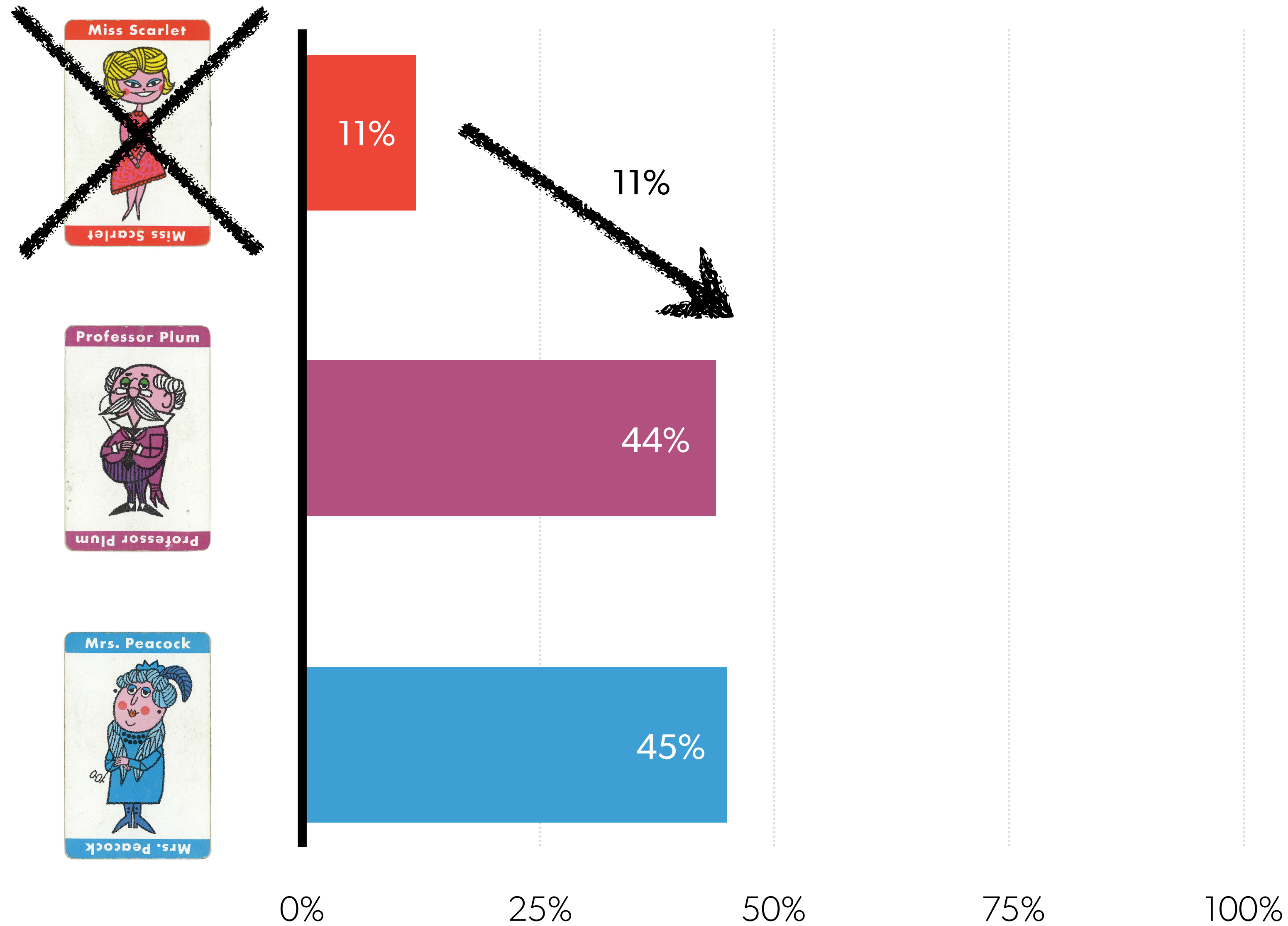


Primary Election

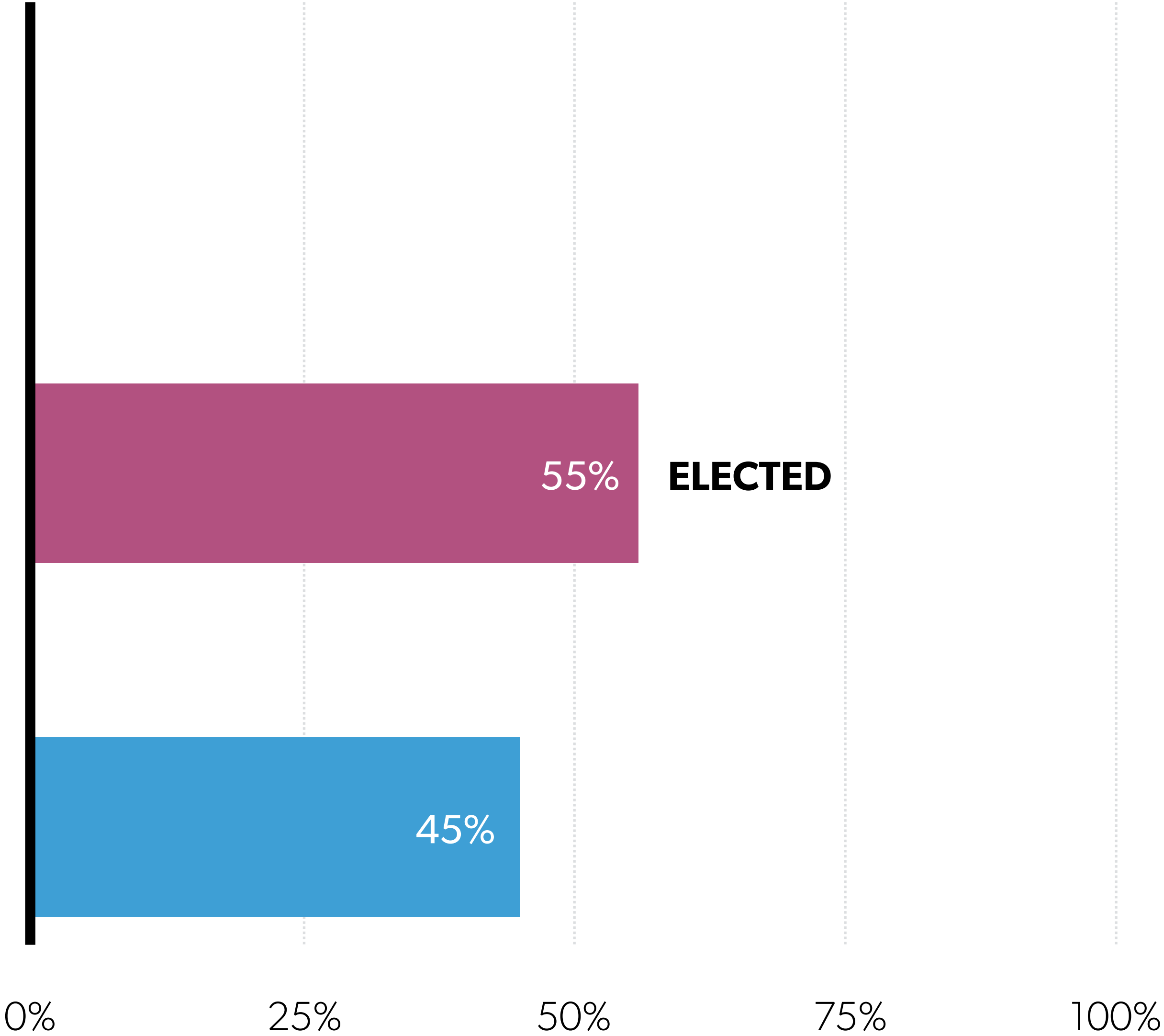


0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

# Migration of Support



Runoff Election





What if **Miss Scarlet**  
does even *better*  
during the primary?

# Primary Election



28%



27%



45%

0%

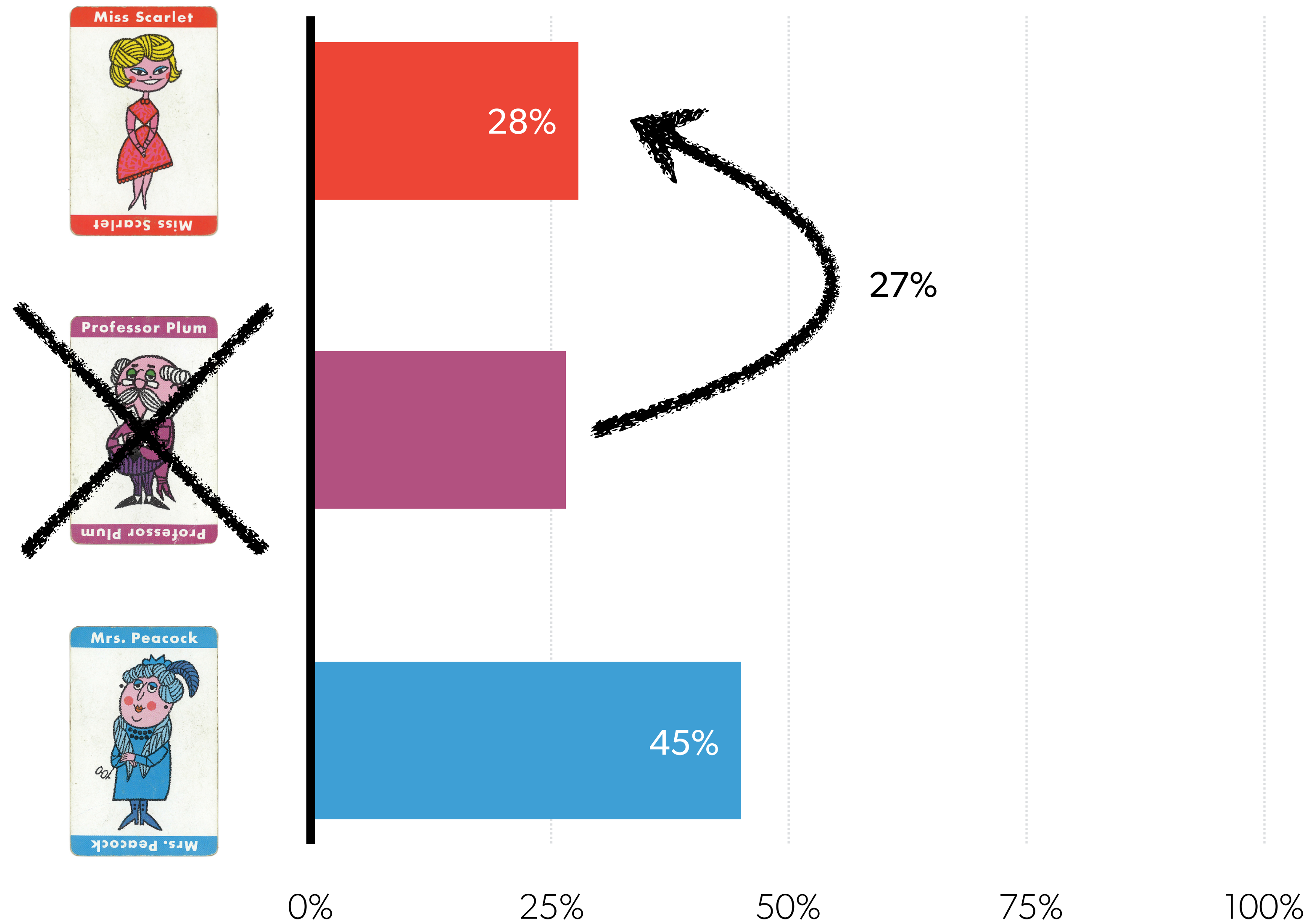
25%

50%

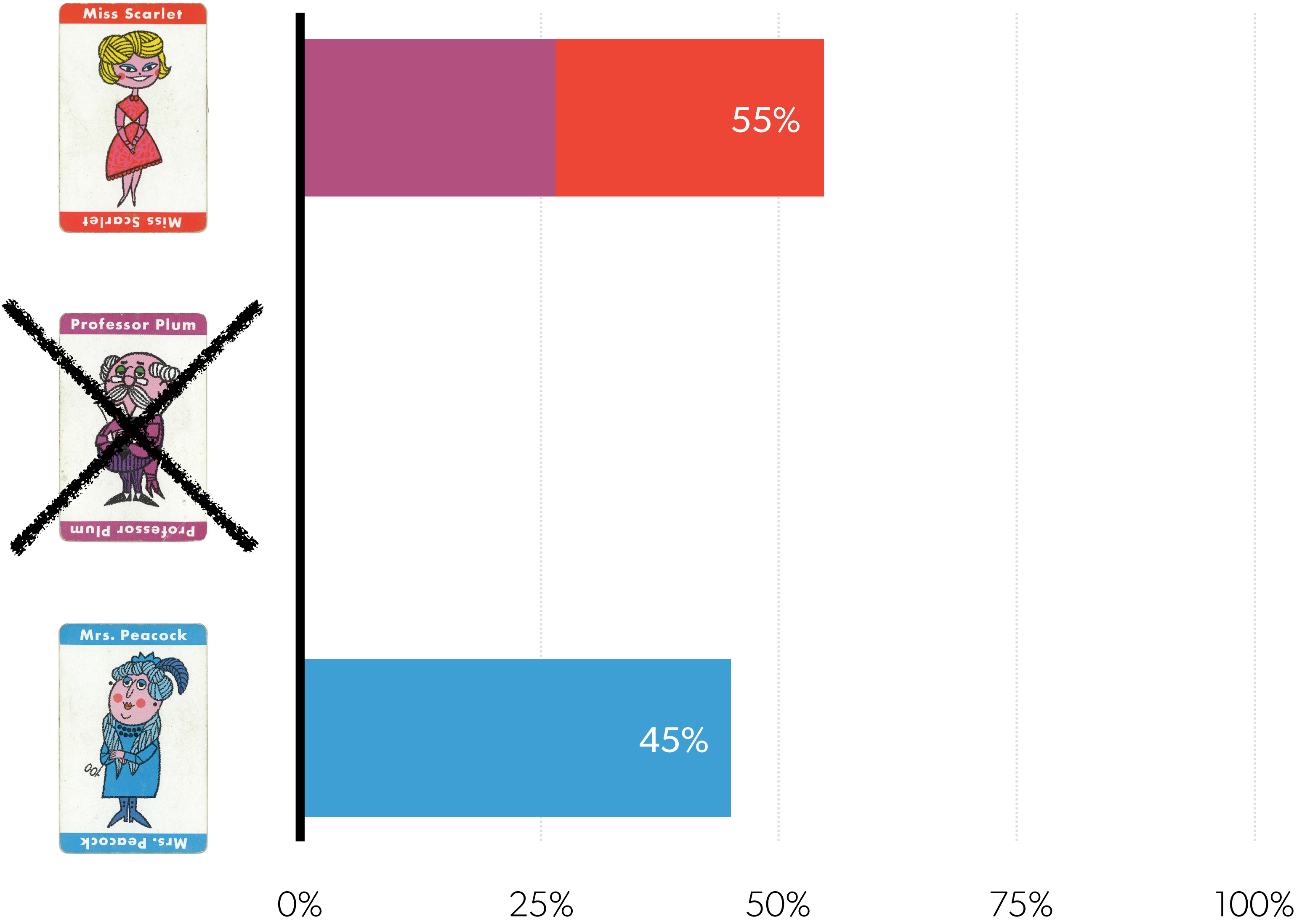
75%

100%

# Ideal Migration of Support

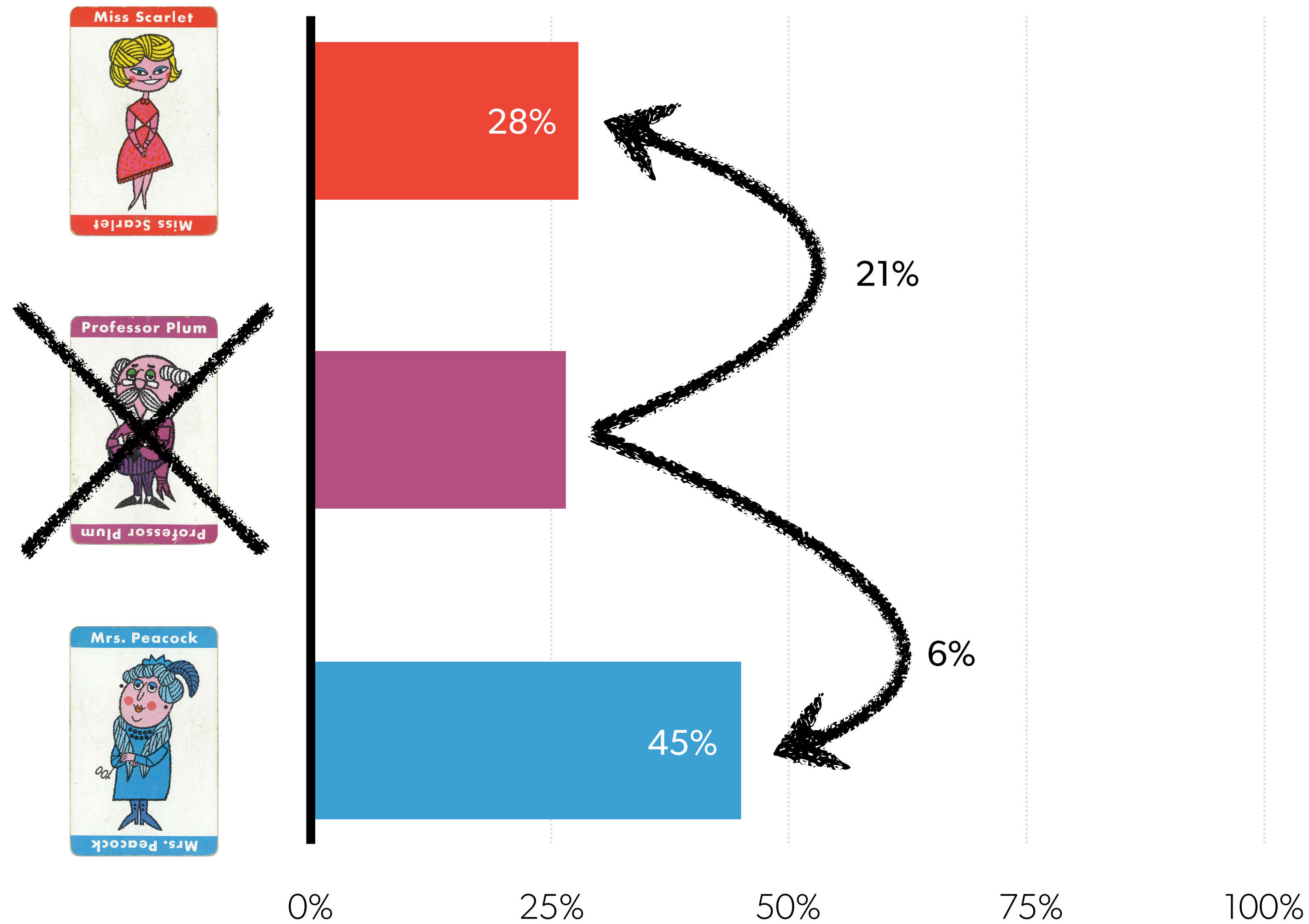


Ideal Runoff Election

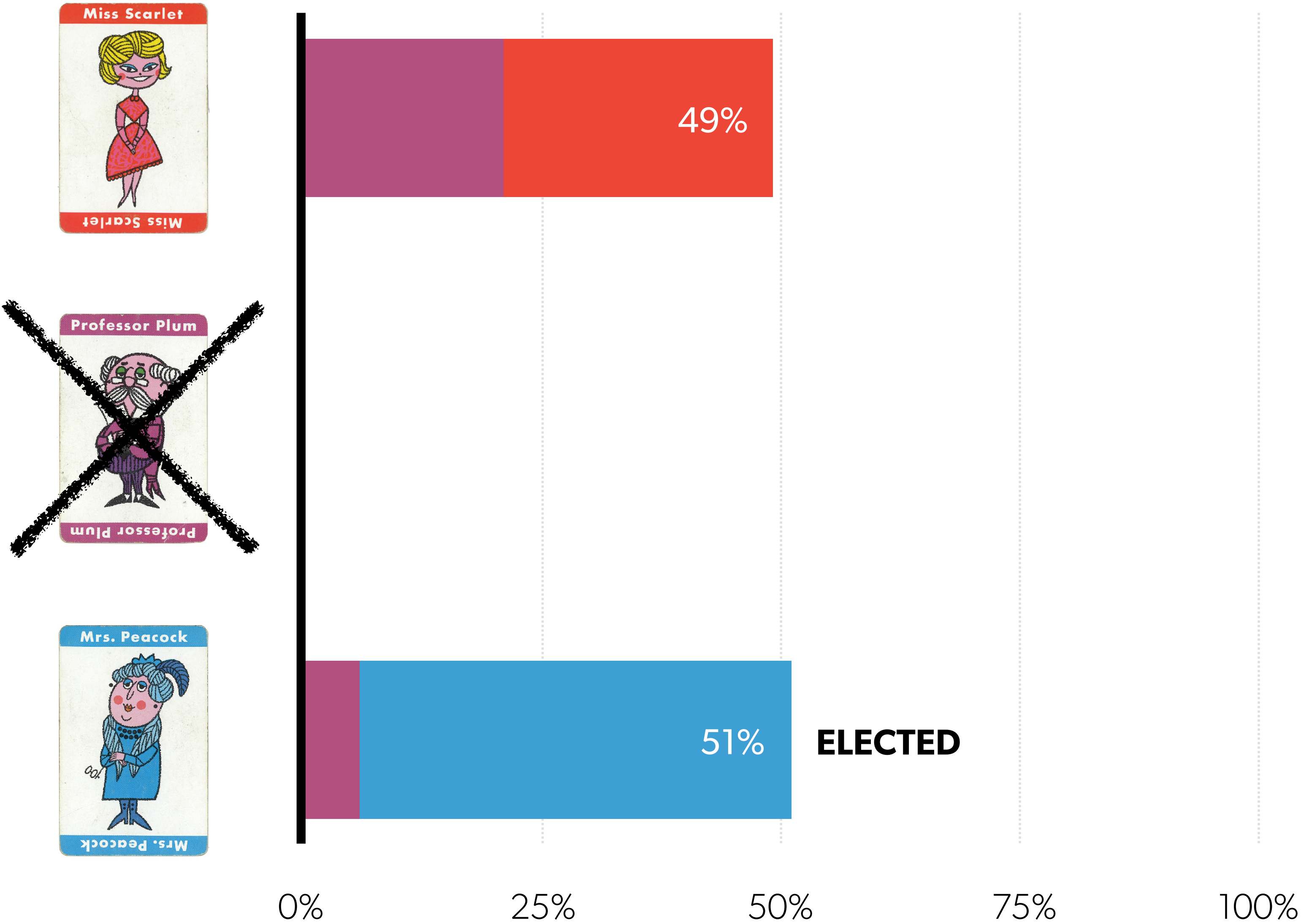




# Actual Migration of Support



Actual Runoff Election



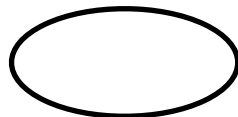
*Vote splitting*  
is always a concern

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**

Miss Scarlet



Professor Plum



Mrs. Peacock





# OFFICIAL BALLOT

*VOTE FOR **ONE***

Miss Scarlet

☐

Professor Plum

☐

Mrs. Peacock

☐

# Miss Scarlet's Core Supporters

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
*VOTE FOR **ONE***

Miss Scarlet

Professor Plum

Mrs. Peacock

# Supporters of Miss Scarlet

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
*VOTE FOR **ONE***

Miss Scarlet	<input type="radio"/>	?
Professor Plum	<input type="radio"/>	?
Mrs. Peacock	<input type="radio"/>	

*and* Professor Plum



OFFICIAL BALLOT

VOTE FOR **ONE**

Miss Scarlet

☐

Professor Plum

☐

Mrs. Peacock

☐

# OFFICIAL BALLOT

VOTE FOR **ONE OR MORE**

Miss Scarlet

☐

Professor Plum

☐

Mrs. Peacock

☐

# Supporters of Miss Scarlet

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
*VOTE FOR **ONE OR MORE***

Miss Scarlet	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Professor Plum	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Mrs. Peacock	<input type="radio"/>

*and* Professor Plum



This is called  
**Approval Voting**

This Year's Election



0%

25%

50%

75%

100%

# This Year's Election



39%



55%



45%

0%

25%

50%

75%

100%



# Approval Voting is simple

OFFICIAL BALLOT	
VOTE FOR <b>ONE OR MORE</b>	
Miss Scarlet	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professor Plum	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mrs. Peacock	<input type="checkbox"/>

Approval Voting  
mitigates the  
*Spoiler Effect*

**Approval Voting**  
helps to lower  
barriers to entry

**Approval Voting**  
tends toward less negative  
campaigning



**Approval Voting**  
tends to elect  
beats-all winners

Approval Voting  
is more precise

Only like one candidate?

<b>OFFICIAL BALLOT</b> <i>VOTE FOR <b>ONE OR MORE</b></i>	
Miss Scarlet	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Colonel Mustard	<input type="radio"/>
Mr. Green	<input type="radio"/>
Mrs. Peacock	<input type="radio"/>
Professor Plum	<input type="radio"/>
Mrs. White	<input type="radio"/>

Like several candidates?

<b>OFFICIAL BALLOT</b> <i>VOTE FOR <b>ONE OR MORE</b></i>	
Miss Scarlet	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Colonel Mustard	<input type="radio"/>
Mr. Green	<input type="radio"/>
Mrs. Peacock	<input type="radio"/>
Professor Plum	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Mrs. White	<input type="radio"/>



Worried your favorite doesn't have a chance?

OFFICIAL BALLOT	
VOTE FOR <b>ONE OR MORE</b>	
Miss Scarlet	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Colonel Mustard	<input type="radio"/>
Mr. Green	<input type="radio"/>
Mrs. Peacock	<input type="radio"/>
Professor Plum	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Mrs. White	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Only know you *don't* want a particular candidate?

OFFICIAL BALLOT	
VOTE FOR <b>ONE OR MORE</b>	
Miss Scarlet	<input type="checkbox"/>
Colonel Mustard	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Green	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mrs. Peacock	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professor Plum	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mrs. White	<input type="checkbox"/>

Not only are all of these possibilities *more precise*, but they're also *completely valid* ways to cast your ballot with **Approval Voting**.

# Approval Voting

reverts to our current system  
seamlessly for voters  
who don't take advantage  
of its precision.



**Approval Voting**  
is fully compatible with  
existing election infrastructure

Where is **Approval Voting** used?

The United Nations

Dartmouth College Student Body

Mathematical Association of America

Texas Green Party

Colorado Libertarian Party

**NDSU Staff Senate**

**OUR COMMISSIONERS PLAN  
TO DECIDE NEXT MONDAY,  
DECEMBER 18TH.**





## Number of candidates per race

Year	Commission	Mayor *
2016	11	—
2015	6*	2
2014	7	2
2012	4	—
2010	4	4
2008	4	—
2006	4	6
2004	7	—
2002	6	2

\* Single-seat races

Source: [casscountynd.gov](http://casscountynd.gov)