

Submitter:

Christina Henderson

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I am strongly against requiring the state of Oregon to go to one-day voting in person and getting rid of the current mail-in/drop-off ballot system for multiple reasons. One, the ability for everyone who is legally able to vote is more guaranteed under the current system. People can vote in their own time and leisure and not have to worry about getting off work to go vote or potentially losing time and money from their jobs to go vote. People who can not handle physically going to vote in person can still participate in the process and not be disenfranchised any more than they already are. I also believe that being able to work on your ballot at home, with no rush, and research all the issues in front of you as you vote, means that people are voting with a better understanding of what exactly they are voting for.

I came from a state where in person voting on Election Day was the expectation. There were times I couldn't go vote cause I couldn't leave work, either because they refused to give us the time off to go vote, or I couldn't afford to lose the pay. In person voting could be time-consuming, often taking several hours to get thru the line to even vote. Even the few early voting locations could be crazy busy and the lines were hours long.

As far as the security regarding being able to vote: I think the mail in system is sufficiently secure. My son recently had to register to vote for the last election. They were sure to check his citizenship status. And the one time my signature was slightly off due to a wrist brace, they were quick to send me a letter to make sure that it was truly me who had voted and signed my ballot. I personally think my vote is more secure here in Oregon than where I have previously lived.

Don't fix what isn't broken!