

Submitter: David Spaulding
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 210, which proposes limiting Oregon's vote-by-mail system and mandating in-person voting on Election Day. As a concerned Oregon voter, I believe that this bill would severely undermine the accessibility, efficiency, and security of our elections.

Oregon has long been a leader in secure, accessible elections through its vote-by-mail system, which has consistently led to high voter participation rates and minimal fraud. SB 210 would disproportionately impact seniors, rural voters, people with disabilities, and those with work or caregiving obligations who rely on vote-by-mail to exercise their fundamental right to vote.

Additionally, requiring voters to return ballots by Election Day without state-funded postage creates an unnecessary burden, particularly for those in remote areas or those facing financial hardship. These changes threaten to suppress voter participation rather than enhance election integrity.

Furthermore, mandating in-person voting without clear evidence of security concerns associated with vote-by-mail contradicts the principles of democracy by making it harder, not easier, for eligible voters to cast their ballots. The existing system has served Oregonians well for over two decades, providing both security and convenience.

I urge you to reject SB 210 and uphold Oregon's strong tradition of accessible and fair elections. Instead of restricting voting options, the Legislature should focus on policies that expand voter participation and strengthen the security of our well-established vote-by-mail process.