

Submitter: Matthew Arciniega  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210  
RE: Opposition to Senate Bill 210

Dear Members of the Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 210, which would make in-person voting the standard method of voting in Oregon, effectively dismantling our successful vote-by-mail system.

As an Oregon voter, I have found that our current mail-in voting system provides several crucial benefits that enhance both the quality of my civic participation and my ability to exercise my right to vote:

1. **Informed Decision-Making:** Mail-in ballots provide me with the time and space needed to thoroughly research candidates and measures. I can carefully review my ballot at home, consult voter guides, and make well-researched decisions rather than feeling rushed in a voting booth.
2. **Work-Life Integration:** Like many Oregonians, I work full-time. Without a national holiday for Election Day, in-person voting would require taking time off work or trying to squeeze voting into already busy schedules before or after work hours. Mail-in voting eliminates this burden and ensures that employment doesn't become a barrier to voting.
3. **Accessibility:** The current system eliminates the need to wait in potentially long lines, which can be particularly challenging for elderly voters, those with disabilities, or those with family care responsibilities.

Oregon has been a national leader in voting accessibility since implementing vote-by-mail statewide in 1998. This system has proven to be secure, efficient, and beneficial for voter participation. Reverting to primarily in-person voting would be a significant step backward for our state's democratic process.

I strongly urge you to vote NO on SB 210 and maintain Oregon's progressive and effective vote-by-mail system.