

Submitter:

Michelle Shouse

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Democracies thrive on participation and wither with inaction. When it comes to voting processes, we should ever be looking to those measures and rules that increase access and opportunity to exercise the franchise; and we should view with skepticism and suspicion any efforts aimed at creating barriers between the citizen and their exercise of this most basic right. This bill is but another salvo in the campaign of disinformation waged by the current incarnation of the conservative movement, sappers undermining the foundation of trust in our process for short-term political gain.

Voting history shows us that increased participation favors the people, the lower classes, liberal and leftist movements, laws, and politicians. It is this simple truth that is the reasoning behind attempts like this to restrict or hamper our voting activity. This one fact reveals the lie at the heart of all their rationalizations for these laws, laying bare the simple, selfish truth of their motivation.

So it is with the interests of all Oregonians, as well as the health and robustness of our participatory system in mind, that I urge you in the strongest possible terms to vote no on this measure.