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

Statement in Support of In-Person Voting and Election Integrity

Restoring in-person voting will help rebuild civic engagement and revive a sense of pride in the American democratic process. Casting a ballot in person fosters a deeper connection to the electoral system, reinforces the responsibility of citizenship, and strengthens public confidence in the integrity of our elections.

Additionally, clear residency requirements must be upheld to ensure only legitimate Oregon residents participate in state elections. A valid Oregon residential address should be a requirement for voter registration, even if a voter's mailing address is located out of state. While temporary out-of-state mailing addresses may be necessary for specific circumstances, they should be strictly limited to six months and must not be allowed if the individual is simultaneously registered to vote in another state. This policy will help prevent potential voter fraud and duplication while preserving the integrity of Oregon's elections.

Furthermore, the state-funded prepaid ballot postage program has not resulted in the increased voter turnout that was initially projected. Given this lack of measurable impact, taxpayers should not be burdened with the continued costs of this program. The financial resources allocated for prepaid ballot postage could be better spent on election security, voter education, or other public services that have a more tangible benefit for Oregonians.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the passage of this bill to reinforce election integrity, promote civic responsibility, and ensure that Oregon's electoral process remains fair, secure, and cost-effective.

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