

I never thought I would have to write a letter like this to defend something as basic as the right to vote in a way that works for so many Oregonians. But here we are. The idea of removing vote by mail is not just frustrating, it is deeply upsetting because I know how many people this would hurt.

Oregon has led the way in making voting easy, safe, and accessible. We should be proud of that. Vote by mail is not just about convenience, it is about fairness. It allows seniors to vote without struggling to find a ride or stand in long lines. It gives people with disabilities the dignity of casting their ballots without barriers. It helps working parents, rural residents, and those with health issues make their voices heard without extra stress or hardship. Why would we want to take that away?

This is not just about policy. It is about people. Many Oregonians rely on vote by mail because it gives them a secure and reliable way to participate in our democracy. Taking it away would force countless individuals to overcome unnecessary obstacles just to exercise a fundamental right. That is not the kind of Oregon we should accept.

Let's be clear, limiting access to voting is limiting freedom. Our democracy works best when more people participate, not fewer. We should be strengthening voting rights, not rolling them back.

I hope you will stand up for the rights of every Oregonian and reject any attempt to remove vote by mail. Our state is better than this, and our democracy depends on it.