

Submitter: Brittany West

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

The ability to vote is a cornerstone of democratic governance. Removing a system that most Oregonians have come to rely on will inevitably decrease accessibility to and participation in voting, particularly in elections outside of the presidential election ballot. Why break something that isn't broken? This is clear and obvious voter suppression. Rural towns will be just as inconvenienced. Consider the logistical and financial nightmare of having millions people taking a day off work to overwhelm polling booths. Does Senator David Brock Smith have a plan to set up and run more polling facilities across the state and in remote areas? Are companies prepared to have their businesses impacted? The bill shows that it, "May Have Fiscal Impact, But No Statement Yet Issued." How can you make a meaningful and informed decision on this bill without first assessing and determining the full scope of fiscal impacts?! Oregon had the lowest Cost of Voting Index value in 2024 with universal mail-in ballots (see link below). Does Senator Smith have a plan to cover the additional cost to unnecessarily push us to the other end of the Index?

<https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/10.1089/elj.2024.0037>