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

The ability to cast a well informed vote with privacy and ease is a right that everyone deserves. We currently have that right in Oregon, not every state does. The first time I was eligible to vote, I lived in a different state. We received no voters pamphlet explaining measures or outlining candidates. We had to hope our boss would let us leave work to go vote (legally they had to, but that doesn't mean they all made it easy or we never faced repercussions.) and we had to go wait in line for hours to vote in a Church. I can not describe the pride and hope I felt when I got to cast my first vote in Oregon. To be able to read about each measure and candidate and take my time and consider each issue in the privacy of my home was a revelation to me. How could you possibly not want that for every voter? To deny voters these rights is unpatriotic at best and at worst a thinly veiled attempt to marginalize the already marginalized. Do not try to frame this as some attempt to ensure election safety and security, we are not stupid. We see this for what it is - the power hungry grasping at straws in an attempt to gain or hold on to power by keeping others down. The best leaders try to lift everyone up and find ways to help everyone do well, not look for ways to keep people down and under their thumbs. If the only way you can hope to get elected is by keeping people unformed and unable to vote- then you don't deserve to be elected. How solid and proud of yourself and your platform can you be if you don't want people to know about it and don't want them to be able to vote for it?