

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

### Statement Opposing the Repeal of Oregon's Vote-by-Mail System

Thank you for working to ensure that voting remains private, personal, and accessible rather than restricted. Oregon's vote-by-mail system is a model of security and convenience, and eliminating it would create unnecessary barriers to participation.

I didn't start voting until I had the option to do so from home, and I know I'm not alone. Many people, especially those with hourly jobs, cannot afford to take unpaid time off to stand in long lines or drive to a polling place in another city. Vote-by-mail removes these obstacles and ensures that every eligible voter has a fair opportunity to participate.

Concerns about fraud are unfounded. Ballots are mailed directly to registered voters, just like official government notices. Each voter must sign their ballot, and that signature is verified against official records. Ballots are tracked, and once counted, a voter cannot simply submit another. These safeguards make Oregon's elections more secure than outdated polling methods vulnerable to human error, long wait times, or even manipulation like the debacles of the past.

Efforts to dismantle vote-by-mail are not about election integrity- they are about limiting voter participation. Oregon's system works. It's secure. It's accessible. And it ensures every voice can be heard. Please reject any effort to take us backward. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony opposing any effort to remove voting by mail in Oregon- it's one of our state's best practices, inspiring greater voter education and participation, as it did for me. Thank you.