

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

To whom this may concern re: SB 210

I strongly oppose legislation that would change our voting system from mail in ballot to an in person on the day of voting system.

Oregon adopted this form of voting in 1996 & since then has built a thorough & comprehensive system that is convenient & safe. I get text messages when my ballot has been mailed to me & when it has been received at the polling area each time. This automated system helps me feel confident that my vote is being counted & handled with current technology. It's also a paper ballot which I believe is the safest way to manage ballots in the current climate of machine compromises by hacking. It's a way to access a recount without losing information permanently.

These bills continue to pop up & be reconsidered every few years because of misinformation campaigns that have people believing that "dead" people get ballots, etc. Much of it is related to campaign outcomes that do not align with what they want. It is sad to see Oregon taxpayer dollars go to time & resources on an issue that is so clearly not benefiting Oregonians as a whole but niche group concerns because they don't get what they want.

I have included 2 links- one link explains in detail how the state navigates & executes policy related to death/non citizen, etc. This is a good place to learn about the actual process & how 29 years of experience has created a well honed system.

The 2nd link is re: May 2024 case brought to the Supreme Court but was dismissed on grounds & was not re visited by a lower court because the case against voting by mail had no merit.

Oregonians that I know love voting by mail. We can take our time, make informed decisions & conveniently either mail or drop at a ballot box. We can do this at our convenience & not take time off of work. I believe that this legislation is a big step backwards with no clear reason. It will not benefit Oregonians & in my view is a giant waste of time.

<https://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/security.aspx>

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2024/05/20/u-s-supreme-court-wont-hear-oregon-lawsuit-that-sought-to-end-mail-voting/>