

Submitter:

Chris Figura

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Good afternoon, I am writing in today in support of SB 210 stating that I'm person voting on the day of an election should be the standard method. I am a 47 year old Oregonian born and raised in Portland, Oregon. As a kid, I remember going down to the local grade school {Applegate} with my mom for her to vote. It took about 5-10 minutes and in order to get her ballot, she would show her ID to the volunteer. This system seemed to work great. In and out, and secure. Over the past few decades mail in voting has taken over and there is no ID required when turning in your ballot. This opens the door for people to steal ballots and fill them out, or to turn in multiple ballots as you do not know if the person turning in the ballot is the person the ballot is assigned to. Secondly, the requirements to register have changed significantly over the years and needs to be addressed immediately! Curious on what the requirements to register are, I went to [sos.Oregon.Gov/voting](https://sos.oregon.gov/voting) and was shocked at what is currently viewed by the State as acceptable ways to register to vote. In none of the authorized ways to vote does it in any way, shape, or form, verify your identity, or your status to legally vote in our elections. Being able to register online, or by mail must be stopped. The only way to register to vote must be in person with Government issued ID. That way the person who is registering you can verify the ID matches the identity of the person filling out the form. This is the only acceptable, secure, accountable way to register voters. Currently it says you can submit ID online. The reason this doesn't work is because it does not verify the identity of the person on the other end of the keyboard or who is filling out the mail in registration, all it verifies is they somehow have someones ID (which might be stolen). All other ways, (last 4 of SS#, utility bill, pay stub, etc) in no way, shape, or form, prove the person registering is who they say they are. There is no excuses for the only acceptable method to be in person at a DMV or authorized voter registration locations (I would suggest the election office or USPS, or even a bank). Any other form of registering opens up the door for fraud, unsecure elections, and having people not authorized to vote, included in our elections. Voting is a special right granted to us and we must protect it's integrity. I question the agenda of anyone who doesn't want to make our elections as secure as possible. This is not a partisan issue. It is making sure every vote counts and that we know the identity of everyone registered and who turns in a ballot. It is 2025, this is not that complicated. And for anyone that makes the argument that there are disabled people and the elderly who cannot make it to vote in person, they could make an appointment to have an election official come out to their home and pick up their ballot. The election official could then scan the ballot which was mailed to the individual, check the individuals ID to make sure it matches the identity of the person as well as the name on the ballot, and then the bar code on the back of the ID can be scanned to match the ballot. This is simple and should of been done years ago.

Without requiring ID to register to vote in person, as well as not requiring ID to be shown when your ballot is submitted, makes our elections unsecure. One thing that we must have is trust in our elections, and the only way to do that is to require that in person ID is required again. I would even say that voting can be done on multiple days, as long as ID is checked and each person can turn in one ballot and each person with a ballot is the person the ballot was issued to. Government ID's can be issued to all legal residents of the State at the states expense if someone is elderly or cannot afford an ID. And for the elderly, disabled like my mom, who is 71 and born and raised in North Portland at Emmanuel hospital as was I, she could request someone come out.