

Submitter: Toni Skelton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I am writing in opposition to SB 210. Oregon has made great strides via vote-by-mail to allow all citizens the opportunity to vote. Its success is demonstrated by turnout that is consistently higher than before vote-by-mail was enacted. The number of ineligible ballots cast under this program is extremely small, and has not impacted the ultimate outcome of any race, ballot measure, bond measure, etc. Vote-by-mail is extremely popular among voting Oregonians. Citizens who have difficulty getting to a polling place (disabled, senior citizens, those who lack reliable transportation, etc.) have enjoyed full participation in the democratic process, making their voice heard by casting their ballots without the barriers that limit voting.

SB 210 throws up barriers to voting as a “solution” to a “problem”—voter fraud--that is virtually nonexistent in Oregon. The bedrock of democracy is the inclusion of all voices in decision making. Please allow Oregon to continue to be a beacon of representation and inclusion by voting this bill down before it leaves committee. Thank you.