

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

The right to vote is the quintessential act defining a democratic government and society. To ensure that as many as possible can exercise their constitutional right, the act of voting should be constrained to least extent possible, while ensuring the results are fair, accurate and free of fraud. Under our constitution activities not delegated to the federal government devolve to the various states. Each state gets to establish their own voting systems and procedures. The federal government has no role or authority in this arena. Oregon's system of vote-by-mail is about as barrier-free as possible. More importantly, it has NEVER been shown or proven to be less fair, less accurate or more prone to fraud than any of the systems used in any other state. There is absolutely no reason to change back to an archaic system that creates unnecessary barriers, burdens and disincentives to vote, while at the same doing NOTHING to improve fairness, accuracy or reduced potential for fraud. Let's stay with a system that is proven, popular, and works, rather than go back to a system, that by its arcane mechanisms, excludes eligible voters.