

Submitter:

Betty Markey

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I urge the Oregon Legislature to retain Mail-in-Voting

In Oregon. Mail-in Voting makes voting accessible to all eligible voters. One can vote from the convenience of their home. No need to schedule time off work on a specific day, within specific hours and get transportation to your designated polling place.

With vote by mail, one can choose the time and day (within set parameters) to vote.

Polling locations can be far from one's address or from their work place; the hours to vote are limited; and access to the poll may not be easy or not available. This can deter Oregonians from voting.

Research has shown that vote by mail increases voter turnout and does not benefit either political party. Vote by mail may provide easier access for underrepresented groups to cast their ballots as they may not have transportation to the nearest polling location.

This proposed bill is just another step to making voter access harder which would reduce turnout and is a way of eliminating equity in our voting system.