

Submitter:

Ruth Ames

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

To whom it may concern,

I am firmly in opposition to this bill. Vote by mail is one of the best ways in ensuring that all citizens have a chance to share their voice in the democratic process. I love how each election I get is o sit down one evening that is convenient for me with the voters pamphlet and read and carefully consider every candidate and every bill from the comfort of my home. My family and I discuss each issue and have a healthy conversation about the issues facing our state, and I am able to make an informed and thoughtful decision about each issue.

Taking away our ability to vote in this matter would not only go against our tradition here in Oregon, but impinge on my right and ability to make thoughtful and informed voting decisions. In addition, Oregon has done vote by mail so long that I and many other voters would need to be taught an entirely new system for voting, which would decrease voter turnout out and discourage participating.

Opposing this bill and allowing Oregon's superior voting process to continue as it has in the past is the best way to ensure that as many Oregon voices are heard during elections as possible. In this moment of history, defending democracy in the face of oligarchy and authoritarianism is a requirement of my leaders.

Thank you,
Ruth Ames