

Submitter: Alexander Ward
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I'm writing today in strong Opposition to any attempt to remove access to mail-in voting in Oregon. Access to mail-in voting has been instrumental to maintaining high levels of voter engagement and participation, some of the highest voter turnout rates in the country. Mail-in voting has worked for decades, and suffers none of the issues that in-person voting does.

Contrary to Senator David Brock Smith's assertions, Oregon's voting system has been one of the most accessible ways to participate in our democratic process. There has been no evidence that Oregonians have lost confidence in our elections, and no evidence of widespread fraud. This bill is predicated on a falsehood, and its intentions are clear - voter suppression. When more people are able to participate in Democracy, the better our Democracy functions. Instead, this bill aims to reduce the number of people who can effectively vote, but putting unnecessary burdens on them. Additionally, other bills are attempting to make it even more difficult to register to vote, further reducing the number of Oregonians who can participate in our Democracy. This is a clear attack on our election systems, not imaginary "widespread voter fraud".

Additionally, we already have one of the lowest costs-per voter in the country, this bill would increase the cost burden of elections on the state.

Vote no on this bill, and preserve the right for all Oregonians to have their voices heard.