

Submitter: Joshua Keady

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

To my representatives and fellow Oregonians:

Vote-by-mail is an inherently fair and safe means of submitting a ballot. The facts bear out that very little inappropriate action takes place because of this system. It is no less safe, accurate, or patriotic than an in-person voting system. It seeks to include all of our citizens and does so quite well. Hard-working people, parents, people with disabilities, and those who simply prefer it are all well-served by the current system.

Simply: an effort to change this system without compelling, hard evidence of it having critical flaws is an attempt to take the vote out of the hands of a large portion of our citizens' hands. Our neighbors, family members, coworkers, fellow church members, the people that make up the fabric of our community are harmed by having their very American right to vote impinged upon by legislation that seeks to limit their ability to participate in a system that works demonstrably safely and positively. The summary of the proposed changes obviously allow for continued voting by mail but proposed restrictions, again, are indicative of an attempt to solve a problem that simply does not exist. Because of that, one must assume that the proposed legislation is either the result of a public servant attempting to justify their actually being in Salem, or it is an attempt to put conditions on the voting process for fear that the citizenry is not inclined to vote for the people and ideals that will keep those servants in office.

As a lifelong Oregonian and proud supporter of our democratic ideals, I very much oppose anything that seeks to limit or fundamentally change our way of voting and this proposed legislation does that.

Respectfully,

Joshua Keady