

Submitter: Julie Shafer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

Oregon has been voting by mail successfully since 1998. Voting by mail helps people vote who would otherwise be unable to vote in person because of work, health, or mobility issues; whereas, requiring voting in person places an undue burden on many people, making them less likely to vote and less likely to feel that they have a say in their government. It is already a requirement that a person be a citizen to register to vote. Therefore, this effort to eliminate vote-by-mail is trying to correct a problem that is nearly non-existent at a high financial cost and a high cost to the values of our democracy--the ability of the citizens to vote.

Also, why spend taxpayer time and money on this bill up when it is removing freedoms and systems that have been working well for decades? And, if it passes, it will cost Oregonians more because the current system, which is working, has to be replaced. This means buying and installing voting machines and completely reworking the processes by which votes are counted. Oregon has bigger problems that need the attention of our legislature! The current voting system works, and I oppose changing it!