Submitter:	Michelle Quijano
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB210

I am writing in today about the crucial role mail-in ballots play in our democracy. Voting is the foundation of our nation, ensuring that every eligible citizen has a voice in shaping our government. Mail-in ballots provide a secure, accessible, and reliable method for millions of Americans to exercise their right to vote.

First and foremost, mail-in voting expands access. Many Americans, including seniors, individuals with disabilities, those working multiple jobs, and members of the military, face significant barriers to in-person voting. Mail-in ballots allow these citizens to participate without the burden of long lines, limited polling hours, or transportation challenges.

Moreover, mail-in ballots enhance election security and accuracy. Each ballot is verified through a rigorous process, including signature matching and tracking systems, to ensure election integrity. Studies have consistently shown that voter fraud through mail-in ballots is extremely rare. Additionally, by allowing voters to take their time in reviewing candidates and measures, mail-in ballots help ensure informed decision-making.

Mail-in voting also strengthens our democracy during emergencies. Whether due to natural disasters, public health crises, or unforeseen circumstances, in-person voting can become impractical or even dangerous. The expansion of mail-in voting options has proven critical in maintaining electoral participation during such times.

As we continue to refine and improve our electoral processes, we must protect and expand mail-in voting as a trusted and essential tool for democracy. Every American deserves the ability to vote easily, securely, and without unnecessary obstacles. Mail-in ballots help guarantee that right.