

Submitter:

Justine Triest

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I'm writing in strong opposition to this bill. Vote by mail is something Oregon does extremely well, especially with the expansions in recent years to have pre-paid postage and count ballots that are mailed on Election Day. This system should be a model for the rest of the country for fair and equitable elections. Voting by mail makes it easier for everyone to participate in democracy, as is our rights as citizens. Having to take time off from work, from childcare, from other responsible to vote in an election is a barrier, and, as we've seen, makes it easier for forms of illegal voter suppression to be enacted. Voting by mail saves everyone time, money, and hassle*. There is NO valid reason to remove this system that Oregon has put in place, over 40 years ago, and worked hard to improve. We should be doing everything possible to increase voter turnout and remove barriers between citizens and the democratic process and there is no legitimate reason why anyone would be against that.

*<https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/10.1089/elj.2024.0037> "In the 2024 rankings, Oregon remains the most accessible state for voters"

Thank you for your time.