

Submitter:

Michal Otten

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Every election season, I see stories online of hundreds of people waiting hours in line to vote. I see stories of people turned away because they went to the wrong polling location, brought the wrong form of ID, of closed polling locations, etc. I see stories of disenfranchisement, of people who are purposefully made to struggle to engage in their right to vote. I see these stories, and I shake my head in sadness for them. Meanwhile, I have fully participated in every single election since I've moved to Oregon, because Oregon makes it free and simple. I don't have to take off work or figure out a good time to go vote in a specific place. I can vote by mail, for free, at little cost to the state. I can take my time to research the many candidates and ballot initiatives on my ballot without feeling pressured about time or taking up someone's spot in a booth. Why, why, why on Earth would Oregon go backwards and take away this process? It will cause voting numbers to go down, it will likely cost much more, and will cause a lack of trust and good will towards our state. This shouldn't even be a conversation. Vote no and let's move on and do some trying to do good in moving our state forward.