

Submitter: Diana DeMaria
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210
To the Honorable Committee for SB 210 Hearing:

I am a resident of Clackamas County, and I am opposed to SB210, in particular SECTION 1. ORS 254.465 is amended to read: 254.465. (1) County clerks shall conduct all elections in this state [by mail] in person, on the date of the election and at a voting booth maintained under ORS 254.474. (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, any elector may request that the county clerk provide the elector with a ballot that may be returned by mail if the elector: (a) Is for any reason unable to vote in person on the date of the election; and (b) Requests a ballot that may be returned by mail no later than 21 days before the date of the election. For Oregonians who live in rural counties, who may have little to no reliable public transportation, a bill to force voting on one day in one place in a voting booth does not take into account the vast and difficult geography of our counties, especially during the winter months when entire road systems can close for safety reasons in unpredictable weather. The arbitrary date of returning a requested mail-in ballot no later than 21 days before the date of the election deprives Oregonians of time afforded to other more fortunate Oregonians (with more access to means of transportation) additional time for candidate debates and other ways of becoming informed before voting. Eligible Oregonians should all have equal opportunity across our state to exercise our right to informed voting. Please oppose SB210 and do not allow it to move forward. Respectfully, Diana DeMaria