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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

In person voting is required to have sound elections for two reasons:

It reduces the chances of fraud on an individual basis.

It ensures that ONLY people with the most interest in the direction of the State will vote. Apathetic, disinterested, and unpatriotic people who would not make the effort to come in person to vote should not have the convenience of voting by mail. Voting is not a convenient practice, it is a sacred duty that only those with real interest should take part in.

I know that the first opposing statement will be from someone talking about people who can't get to a polling location for one of a number of reasons. Therefore, the bill should include exemptions for people who are physically disabled and cannot operate a polling machine or navigate a building on their own. Bus tickets to official polling locations during election times can be made free of charge. Also, OHA has a mechanism to drive people to doctor's visits free of charge. Utilizing the OHA resources during election times for voting purposes would ensure that no individual or family is unable to exercise their right to vote at their convenience.

It's time to try something different with regard to voting. People need to be reassured that the system is working for them, not against them. Gubernatorial elections in Oregon have been within 5% for several cycles. This does nothing but weaken trust in Oregon's voting system, and in person, decentralized voting would go a long way to restoring trust in democracy and Democrats.