

Submitter: Dena Wilder
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

Dear Senate Committee on Rules.

I am a Portland resident (97206) and I'm writing in opposition of SB 210. I work as a caregiver for people with physical disabilities and with intellectual disabilities. Voting in person presents a whole layer of challenges for many folks with disabilities. Some folks I work with are immune compromised and in person would put them at risk. Transportation is more difficult for people with disabilities, so just getting to the location to vote can add more complication to the process. Folks with intellectual disabilities may need someone to read the ballot for them. Being able to vote in the privacy of their own home can reduce the stigmatization of having someone read for them.

For those of us who work full-time, it means taking PTO to vote and for those of us who work as caregivers, our PTO is quite precious to us as we need time to restore ourselves.

I love voting by mail. It enables me to sit with my ballot and take the time needed to be a careful voter. It feels archaic to go back to waiting in line to vote. The system is working beautifully. I don't see any reason why someone would want to change this! To me it feels like voter suppression. Why would you ever want to limit ways people can vote!?

Thank you for reading my testimony.
Dena Wilder
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