

Submitter:

Tamathy Howald

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Hello,

I have close family living in 8 different states and after every election there are many of them that tell me they haven't voted in their state, local, or even national elections. The reason is almost always because they couldn't get away from work or because they had other pressing obligations - doctor's appointments for their kids or school or other events, or their kids were sick, or they live a distance from where they would need to cast their vote in person and they didn't have a way to get there. Talking to them I always feel so incredibly grateful to have the system we have here in Oregon.

I have voted when I've been sick with Covid. I've voted when my kids were sick or when my life has been full of work and kids activities. I've had time sit at my own table and think and research and make my decisions and then vote with ease. I have not taken this gift for granted.

I have no doubt that if all the states my family live in offered Oregon's system for voting - my family members would be regular voters. And I'm afraid that is what a bill like this is meant to discourage - more people voting.

Tamathy Howald