

Submitter:

Devin Nichols

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

To whom it may concern:

I would like to offer my perspective on repealing the ability to vote by mail. I believe we encourage more Oregonian's to vote by offering the vote by mail system. The vote by mail allows citizens to carefully review the voters pamphlet and submit a ballot from the comfort and safety of their own home. It allows people who have schedules which differ from the norm to vote as time allows (examples: shift work, night shift, childcare restrictions, those with disabilities etc.). Oregon has (generally) a higher voter turnout which can be attributed to the vote by mail system. In regards to voter fraud I think there is not validity to that claim. An anecdotal story is when my signature changed when I became a nurse (I shortened my signature because you are constantly signing documents) and the county clerk flagged my ballot because the signature did not match. I was sent a communication that I needed to present myself to the county clerks office for my ballot to be authenticated. I presented myself, showed the necessary ID and updated my signature. I felt that showed the government employees were performing their jobs and reviewing inconsistent ballots. Please do not take away a service which promotes a healthy democracy. Thank you for your time,
Devin Nichols