

Submitter: Josh Pierce

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

There is no need to change the voting methods in the state of Oregon simply because conservatives falsely claim there's fraud. I'm almost every case, when examples of voter fraud have been proven around the country, it's been conservative voters who do it.

The goal of this SB 201 is to stop people from voting, specifically, votes from working class and people of color. These demographics historically do not vote for Republicans. The goal of any democracy is to ensure as many people are able to vote as possible, which this measure is trying to stop.

It's honestly irrelevant to this conversation to talk about how secure vote-by-mail is (and has been for years) because anyone who claims election fraud does so without proof or evidence. Aside from a handful of examples (which are almost all perpetrated by Republican voters), voter fraud is not a widespread problem or concern. Give us proof there there is widespread fraud happening, with unbiased statistics. You will find no such statistics because the fraud simply does not happen.

Vote-by-mail is a model of convenience and safety. The push to move away from vote-by-mail is to disenfranchise citizens to vote, particularly those who would have difficulty getting to polling sites on the day of the election for a variety of reasons.

We've already seen other states close down and limit polling places in minority-heavy neighborhoods, forcing long lines instead of quick in and out stops, which causes many to stay home instead of exercising their right to vote. We do not need this coming to Oregon.

Efforts to restrict voting to in-person, require ID, and so on have typically made it more of a hindrance for the poor and minorities to go through the necessary steps to prove some level of citizenship that was never a problem before, and in many cases it's hard to impossible to get valid documentation from decades in the past.

The push to do away with vote-by-mail is a thinly-veiled attempt to give more voting power back to primarily white males, and conservatives in Oregon are already upset that the denser population centers that are primarily left-leaning have more power than they do in rural areas with few people across many square miles of land. That's why so many of them want to become part of Idaho.

Ending vote-by-mail in Oregon would be a massive mistake. Do not cater to sore

losers who see no other path to regaining power except to limit the rights of others not like them.