

Submitter:

Irene Barajas

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Mail-on ballots are the only way many of us in rural Oregon can vote without having to shut down our small businesses for the day. For myself as a childcare provider, this also means the families in my care will have to also call off of work, as most do not have alternative care, and would also have to take their children with them to vote. The inconvenience of this would be more than just a minor setback. Mail-on ballots make it possible for those in the most outlying areas to vote without have for potentially hours to get to a polling booth. They make it possible for seniors and those with disabilities who cannot drive themselves make their voices heard, same for the parents of small children who do not have child care available. Mail-in ballots give folks time to vote while reading over the ballot measures carefully, and making sure they understand what exactly it is they're voting about, and whomever their voting for when it comes to candidates. It gives those with learning or reading disabilities the chance to take however much time they need to vote confidently, without feeling pressured.

As a small business owner, parent, and rural community member, I VERY strongly OPPOSE this getting rid of mail-in ballots! The very minimum amount of fraud that happens is NOT worth getting rid of it entirely.