

Submitter: Karen Peters

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I strongly oppose any measure or proposal to make in-person voting the standard in Oregon. Oregon voters have enjoyed mail or drop box ballot return for many years with very few issues. I find the security of this mail/drop box process always satisfactory and have even had my ballot rejected once because my signature wasn't similar enough. In that case, the process worked as it should - my ballot was returned to me and I was given an opportunity to re-file. I do believe we need to look at a different or alternate method of ballot distribution due to the Trump administration's efforts to take over the USPS and slow or curtail mail service. Some ideas may be the ability to print a ballot online - with sufficient security to ensure only one ballot per voter is accepted and counted, or the ability for voters to elect to pick up a ballot at their county clerk's office vs. having it sent via USPS. I feel that if we return to a one-day, in person process, it will impact people who work or are elderly or disabled, are ill, or don't have transportation. There is no evidence of widespread voter fraud at any time in Oregon's history of our mail-in voter process, therefore it feels as though the only goal with this proposal is suppression and control of Oregon citizens. I might suggest that if republicans wish to vote in person, perhaps Oregon could work to create a way for them to do so on Election Day, on a trial basis with actual usage numbers to be analyzed, one polling location per county open all day for them to come and vote and show their ID if that is what they want to do - but as far as dictating terms to other Oregonians who aren't able or don't wish to travel to the poll, I am in favor of retaining the current process. Thank you.