

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Day of in-person voting disenfranchises voters. Oregon vote by mail is secure and enables more eligible voters to vote than would be able to vote in a single day in-person situation. When I was unable to get the day off when Oregonians had less options and days to drop off ballots, I had to drive to the elections office to drop off my ballot. Even that barrier to entry caused me to miss elections due to a very busy schedule.

Single day in-person voting would be much more restrictive and, in turn, harmful to our communities. If the community has difficulty voting, a very small percentage of voters would be represented in the election.

Day of voting requires more volunteers, which of whom can be difficult to train. It takes resources. I have had the honor of being a election volunteer twice. It is difficult work that requires time and education. Most voters have busy lives or find standing in line to vote, let alone volunteering, extremely difficult. Oregon has a superior election system and has often been at the front of election innovation in the US.

Ending mail-in voting would set Oregonians back. We are currently in the top 6 US states for voter turnout. Data suggests that around 75% of Oregon voters are represented in elections. Oregonians are truly heard when they vote. Our system allows us this privilege.