

Submitter:

Russell Johnson

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I am opposed to this change. I am an airline pilot for a major airline and the proposed changes would make it difficult to vote compared to what we have now, which I believe works well. With our work schedules, I am gone for more than half the month, and every month my schedule changes. With how the pilot contracts are written and with close look at the laws, the company is required to give us time off to vote, but if we are on a trip out of state (which they all are) they are not required to bring us back to the state so we can vote. This leaves me with the only option of mail in vote via absentee votes or our current mail in system, or get th day off in town. If this bill passes this may only leave me with one method to vote, restricting my ability to do so.

The way our schedule works is through is through a bidding system based on seniority. The bids open about two tweaks before by start of a new month. Every month the lines (flight pairings for a trip) change so our schedule changes month to month, considerably more the more junior the pilot is. This makes it very hard for us to try to get specific days off without using our coveted "golden days off" which are 6 days off the company gives us each year that are "untouchable". These days must be approved in advance, generally 2 months out.

I I try to reserve my "golden days off" for family emergency's or other appointments that can not be changed that take months to reschedule. I do not want to have to use these to vote. In todays world where we have Real ID's and databases for everything that make it very quick and easy to look up a person, I do not understand why I must arrive in person to vote when we have a reliable system in place that has worked well for over a decade.

I do not want to feel restricted in how I vote due to my job and schedule and I feel this new bill will do exactly that for no apparent reason other than to make it harder for me to vote. Our computers and databases for government identity Should be secure and this bill seems to put that into question. Our personal information in the government databases should be reliable to be looked up via mail in votes, if it's not I don't understand how this "showing up in person" will change anything as the SAME information is already in those databases they would check in person. To me this seems like it's just making g thing more complicated than they need to be and will ultimately hurt voters ability to cast votes. If it's hard to do people probably won't vote. Maybe that's what this bill is aimed at but I'd like to think we are better than that.