

Submitter:

Christine Renfrew

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

To whom it may concern,

Mail-in voting in Oregon has allowed me to vote in every election since moving here 7 years ago. That includes: when I was a full-time student doing a one year masters program and student teaching; during the pandemic being able to safely have my voice heard; working as a teacher/coach/mentor at a small rural school with long work hours; and balancing our home life as foster parents with constant appointments, visits, and other commitments. I am able to research my choices thoroughly, full in my ballot as I go and as I have time to, and make sure I am a well-informed citizen.

Without this option, I likely would not be able to cast my vote in every election. My job and the extracurricular activities I coach and mentor mean long days after school, as well as getting my own kids where they need to be every day.

Removing mail-in ballots as an option puts extra burden on the sick, disabled, elderly, and poor--those we should put extra care to protect. It removes their ability to have their voice be heard easily and from their own home. It requires them to travel, coordinate, and attend a busy voting place, putting themselves at risk sometimes, in a situation that could be avoided.

I have full confidence in my vote being counted by mail, and I urge you to consider leaving Oregon's system as-is.

Respectfully,  
Christine Renfrew