

Submitter:

Clark Kepler

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I oppose Oregon Senate Bill 210 because it has the potential to undermine the established and successful vote-by-mail system, a cornerstone of Oregon's democratic process. This system has consistently demonstrated high voter turnout and accessibility, particularly for rural and marginalized communities. Repealing it would introduce unnecessary barriers to voting, potentially disenfranchising significant portions of the electorate. Furthermore, the bill's proposition disregards the proven efficiency and security of vote-by-mail, which has been refined over decades. Moving to a traditional polling place model risks increased costs, logistical challenges, and longer wait times, ultimately hindering rather than enhancing voter participation. This proposed change represents a step backward in ensuring equitable and accessible elections.