

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I am in strong opposition to SB 210. Let's call it what it is: an attack on voting rights. Voting by mail is incredibly important in empowering working class voters. It allows folks that work all day, or provide care all day, or anyone that can't get the day off to stand in long lines for hours, to participate in our democracy. It also encourages people to spend time with their ballot and literature to make informed, not rushed, decisions. Mail in voting is the reason Oregon has some of the highest voter turnout in the country. Every year we see footage on the news of exhausting multi-hour long lines at polling places in other states. We see people being told to "stay in line" at the risk of their vote not being counted due to lack of staffing, polling places, and other voting infrastructure. It is obvious that our system of mail in voting is light-years better than that.

Using recent mistakes in the motor-voter system to argue for dismantling mail in voting is disingenuous. These mistakes were caught and steps taken to prevent the issue in future! QA/oversight caught the issue and it didn't impact the outcome of elections! To punish oregonians by limiting access to voting (that will disproportionately affect poor people who can't afford to take the day off, and women/full time care givers) is wrong.