

Submitter: Patrick Smergut

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

As someone who grew up in rural eastern Oregon and has been able to vote by mail becoming an eligible voter, I strongly oppose this measure. Oregon's mail-in voting has encouraged a high voter turnout (70.7% in 2024 as the 11th highest state according to Ballotpedia), and the system has a record of being secure with no reports of mass fraud.

Vote-by-mail allows Oregon citizens with full time jobs and people who live in remote areas with lack of transportation to polling booth locations, to review our candidates when we have time, and make the best, informed decision when it comes time to fill out our ballots. Taking vote-by-mail away means less productivity, more stress, and lower voter turnout for the less mobile among us.

SB210 is an attempt to fix something that isn't broken, and undermines a system Oregon voters have been content with since its inception in 1981 and majority adoption in 1987. With its good track record and decades of success, there are no concrete reasons to challenge Oregon's vote-by-mail system.

Supporting SB210 would throw away the well-working and essential vote-by-mail system under the guise of 'election integrity', and so I urge you to oppose this pointless bill.