

Submitter:

Robert Faust

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Hello,

My name is Robert Faust and I am a resident of Forest Grove. I have lived in Oregon for 10 years after moving here from South Carolina. Since moving to Oregon, I have voted, and participated in civics, more than I ever have; and that is in part due to being able to vote by mail.

I am a busy father of two children under 5. All of my family is on the east coast, and thus we don't have any grandparents, aunts, uncles, or the "normal" child support system that a lot of other families rely upon. Because of this, it is increasingly hard to find childcare assistance to enable us to get out of the house and complete many tasks without children, that includes voting.

My wife and I are now very active in voting, and we vote in every election; general and special. If SB 210 passes, I can all but guarantee that my wife and I will not be able to vote. Being able to get to a polling station is difficult enough, and I experienced that in droves when living in South Carolina, but that was when I was younger and did not have as many responsibilities or full-time employment. Now that I have to work and take care of my family, it just puts an extra burden on myself and my employer to be able to take time off of work to go vote. I suspect that I have the same frame of mind as many other working families in Oregon; being able to get to a polling station on election day would probably prove very difficult or impossible for many working Oregonians.

It's evident in the numbers: voter turnout in Oregon is among the highest in the nation. If we want to hold that status, and support democracy, then SB 210 must not pass.

And that is why I am opposed to SB 210.

Keep mail-in voting in Oregon and keep our democracy moving.

Thank you,

Robert Faust