

Submitter:

Nomi Pearce

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I am opposed to this bill.

The last time I voted in person was in Eugene, and I spent several hours in a line that coiled around a middle school gym in order to get my say in an election. I wasn't familiar with all of the people or issues on the ballot. I was there for one particular person. As a graduate student and instructor at University of Oregon, it was difficult to exercise my right to the vote. It was worth the wait even though it meant adjusting my whole day for that moment. My candidate did not win, but I participated.

Over the years sitting at the dining room table with the voter pamphlet, access to the Internet, and the ability to phone a friend, I found my choices were well informed and thoughtful.

Oregon's vote by mail has been the envy of many other states in the country. Don't take us back to a time when access to the vote was only for those privileged enough to be able to take hours out of a workday in order to exercise their right.

If there is something wrong with the vote by mail system fix that. Don't throw out the whole system.

Thank you for your consideration.