

Submitter:

Timothy Shuck

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

This bill serves no purpose other than to tout common republican talking points. Vote-by-mail, one of the common boogeymen talked about in the right-wing echo chambers, is often recycled between the various talking heads, social media, and even the president of the United States. All of this in absence of any evidence that vote-by-mail is abused in a fashion exceeding other voting methods. Many times, people conflate reception of a ballot to mean votes are cast for an individual. In the case of a deceased person receiving a ballot, casting that ballot would be a crime and, moreover, that vote would be voided when the fraudulently cast ballot is received and reconciled against voter rolls.

Additionally, requiring voter ID serves to solve a problem that also does not exist as only US citizens can cast votes at the state and federal levels. Moreover, the requirement of voter ID puts an undue burden on a citizen's right to vote, a cornerstone in a democracy. The requirement for voter ID means those without readily available transportation must arrange travel, have and maintain whatever documents are required, pay whatever processing fees there may be to acquire their ID, and remember to bring their ID to the proposed polling place. Each one of the aforementioned items is ripe for, and has been, abused to suppress voters from casting their votes. Other states have reduced the number of polling sites in areas with with a given political proclivity. This has the effect of driving up wait times as seen in Georgia, occasionally hitting standing in line for multiple hours to perform their civic duty and exercise their right to vote. Other states have moved locations to obtain the IDs further from places of a given political leaning, making it so that poorer citizens are unable to either take time off to even get the documents, or afford the fees associated with getting the ID, making some unable to exercise their right to vote.

This bill will be used as fodder to show how "they" don't even want to put the option to the people to vote on. These same people will then claim that they are suppressing the will of the people all while ignoring the fact that the people spoke already when they enacted vote-by-mail.

This bill should be opposed.