

Submitter:

Amanda Moomaw

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I am writing in opposition to SB 210, which makes in-person voting on the date of an election the standard method for conducting an election. There are so many reasons why our current system of voting by mail is superior to in-person voting. Every election as I sit at my table and compare candidates and read the pros and cons for ballot measures I am grateful for the ability to take my time and make an informed decision about the candidates and measures I want to vote for. Sometimes it takes hours for me to complete my ballot and I wouldn't have it any other way. Some years there are measures on the ballot that I am learning about for the first time when I go to vote. I can't imagine having to try to make these important decisions after having waited in line for hours and then worrying about the folks waiting in line behind me. I feel mandating in-person voting also disenfranchises those that have to work and who have families they take care of. Even if election day was turned into a holiday, not all people would be able able to vote as they would still need to work. Not all employers offer paid holidays or can close down their businesses to let employees all have the day off to vote. It's just not realistic. Requiring people to carve out potential hours from their day and work week does not make sense especially when they can make that time in their own homes when it works best for them. Our current system has served our state well and allowed all to vote that chooses to. We shouldn't change something that is working unless we don't want everyone to be able to exercise their constitutional right to vote. Is that the point of this measure? To make it more difficult for the people of Oregon to cast their ballots?