

Submitter:

Michael Poley

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I strongly oppose any proposed legislation that would restrict voting to in-person only and eliminate mail-in voting options.

Removing mail-in voting would create unnecessary barriers to democratic participation for numerous citizens while failing to address any verified problems with our current voting system.

My opposition is based on several key concerns:

Reduced accessibility for vulnerable populations.

Requiring in-person voting creates significant hardships for elderly voters, voters with disabilities, rural voters far from polling places, and those with inflexible work schedules or caregiving responsibilities.

No evidence of widespread fraud.

Mail-in voting has been used successfully for decades. Multiple studies and government investigations have repeatedly confirmed that mail-in voting is secure and reliable.

Military and overseas voters disenfranchised.

Americans serving overseas in our military and citizens living abroad have historically relied on mail-in ballots to participate in our democracy.

Cost-effective and efficient.

Mail-in voting systems reduce the need for polling infrastructure and staffing while increasing participation rates.

Proven track record.

States like Oregon, Washington, and Colorado have conducted elections primarily by mail for years with high voter satisfaction, strong turnout, and minimal issues.

Instead of restricting voting methods, we should focus on policies that strengthen our democracy by making voting more accessible while maintaining security.

I urge lawmakers to reject this bill and instead support measures that protect every citizen's fundamental right to vote.