

Submitter:

Gregory Johnson

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I strongly oppose efforts to significantly restrict or eliminate Oregon's vote by mail system.

The rest of the country needs to learn from Oregon how to run lower cost efficeint, inclusive, safe & secure elections for all residents. It is a ridiculous attack on true democracy. Oregon's system is tried and true despite the mountains of disinformation spewed across this country.

Election laws should not be designed to prohibit and restrict eligible voters from voting which sadly is broadly the case in many states.

Election Day should be a National Holiday as it is in many countries.

It is not fair to working people to be expected to get to polls in locations where the number of polling places are so few that it takes hours to vote. Many eligible voters cannot afford the lost work. Many elderly and others can't get to polls and/or wait for hours in line. Working adults with childcare responsibilities can have similar challenges.

Add to that the potential for physical and emotional risks of being intimated by angry protestors that should mind their own business when it comes to voting & polling places.

Discrediting and dismantling vote by mail options are slap in the face to the face to our military, the elderly, the poor, and the working class of this country. Business people of all echelons travel frequently but most of them can get absentee ballots easily.

Vote by mail provides a broad solution to an array of challenges to enabling free and fair elections. The isolated and limited problems are miniscule and addressable with technology and process improvements.

I'm sure the Republican leadership and backers of this bill would like to take this country backwards 200 years to when only town selectMEN could vote and represent their districts. America was not great when it was only great for a select few.

Vote by mail should be the future for all American's, with the associated checks & balances to ensure people are registered, are not voting more than once, and that ballots don't get sent to people that died in prior years. Etc.

Let's not take Oregon back 100 years or more for voting rights! Democracy has evolved faster in Oregon we don't need to take steps backwards to help the rest of the country catch up.

Sincerely,

Gregory Johnson

Blodgett, Oregon

