

Submitter:

Katie Johnson

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I have been an Oregonian my entire life and have been a registered voter since 1998 and have always voted by mail. I remember as a young Oregonian having to go with my mom so she can vote in person. It was always time consuming and involved long lines. She had to take me with her since my dad was at work and she couldn't leave me home alone since I was a child. Many people couldn't take off work to vote in just the one day provided during in person voting. In person voting would work if it was a national holiday and people were given the day off of work like in other countries, but sadly our country doesn't do that.

When I became a voter I was at first sad I wouldn't get to go vote in person. However, I quickly realized in my early 20's that mail in voting is not only more easily accessible, but also allows all eligible voters to vote even if they have work, school, or mobility issues. I also feel like I am more knowledgeable about the issues I vote for in each election and the candidates I choose because I get to sit and do my research while filling in my ballot. As Americans, our right to vote is vital and is something many lost their lives for. How can we take that opportunity away? I truly believe mail in voting should be nationwide. I am so proud of Oregon to be one of the first to do it and do it correctly and also legally. I am sad that some people think it causes voter fraud. It is very untrue and the facts don't match that misinformation that people provide online and continue to spread. I urge our state leaders to not even consider getting rid of mail in voting. Please don't cave to the people that don't listen to facts.

Thank you,
Katie