

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

As an Oregonian, I strongly support maintaining our vote-by-mail system, which has been a cornerstone of our democratic process for over two decades. This system has consistently proven to be safe, secure, and accessible, ensuring that every eligible voter has the opportunity to participate in elections. Oregon's vote-by-mail system has not only increased voter turnout—earning us one of the highest participation rates in the nation—but it has also saved millions of taxpayer dollars by reducing the costs associated with traditional polling stations. It has also helped me vote informed, giving me the time to research candidates and ballot measures in the comfort of my own home when I have the time.

Mail-in voting fosters inclusivity by eliminating barriers such as transportation challenges, work schedules, or health concerns that might otherwise prevent people from voting. It allows voters to take their time to research candidates and measures from the comfort of their homes, leading to more informed decisions. Moreover, with robust security measures like signature verification and ballot tracking, Oregon's system ensures election integrity while leaving a paper trail for auditing purposes.

This system is not about partisan advantage; it benefits all voters equally and strengthens our democracy by making voting accessible and convenient for everyone. Oregon has set a national example with its mail-in voting system, and we should continue to lead the way in expanding access to the ballot box for all citizens. Thank you.