

Submitter: Richard Tillman  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

My name is Richard Tillman and I am reaching out to voice my adamant opposition to Senate Bill 210, which seeks to undermine Oregon's exemplary vote-by-mail system. For many years, Oregon has stood at the forefront of election accessibility and security, regularly achieving exceptional voter participation rates nationwide. This remarkable achievement can be directly linked to our efficient, straightforward, and dependable vote-by-mail process.

The modifications proposed in SB 210 would negatively impact vulnerable populations including working parents, senior citizens, and people with disabilities. These groups particularly benefit from the ease and accessibility of postal voting. Beyond these vulnerable populations, those without flexible working schedules would likewise be negatively impacted, as they may have to choose between getting paid and voting. Rural communities likewise will be impacted, where voting locations may be remote and limited. Removing this system would erect unnecessary obstacles to democratic participation, effectively silencing those who already struggle to make their voices heard at the ballot box. Oregon's mail-in voting system has consistently demonstrated its reliability and security. Allegations of rampant voter fraud lack factual basis and evidence. Our current system incorporates strong safeguards, including signature verification protocols and ballot monitoring systems, guaranteeing the validity and authenticity of each ballot cast.

Additionally, abandoning vote-by-mail would create considerable financial strain on our state resources, something we cannot currently afford. Returning to conventional polling stations would demand extensive funding for facilities, personnel, and technology, while simultaneously reducing voter turnout and creating procedural complications. This represents regression rather than progress. The advantages of vote-by-mail are undeniable:

- 1) Enhanced Accessibility: It provides convenient voting options for all Oregonians, regardless of work commitments, physical limitations, or residential location.
- 2) Strong Voter Participation: It helps maintain consistently robust voter engagement, ensuring our elected officials truly represent public interests.
- 3) Election Integrity: It incorporates comprehensive security protocols that protect our democratic process.
- 4) Economic Efficiency: It reduces taxpayer expenses while upholding excellent standards in election management.

Eliminating mail-in voting rights will result in voter disenfranchisement and increase state expenditures. I strongly encourage you to oppose SB 210 and maintain Oregon's dedication to accessible, secure, and efficient elections. Please consider the wishes of Oregon residents who cherish their voting rights and defend our successful vote-by-mail system.

Respectfully,  
Richard Tillman  
Portland, Oregon  
3/31/2025