

Submitter:

J Bray

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Voting by mail, as the process has been handled in Oregon now for decades, has been both secure and reliable.

It has also opened up opportunity to participate to many who would otherwise be unable to cast a ballot.

In my own mother's last years, her range was increasingly limited by mobility issues. Thanks to Oregon's mailed ballots, she was still able to spend hours reading her ballot, asking questions and considering how to vote. As her world dwindled down to the confines of her home, the mail-in ballot process let her continue to participate in civil society. She was vehement about marking her ballot and adamant about ensuring it was sent back in time to count.

Thinking on the subject, I believe similar conditions hold true for many elderly folk--as well as those whose employment makes it difficult to vote in person within narrow windows of polling hours. They are still citizens, and deserve to be able to participate, in spite of physical restrictions.

The mail-in balloting system has been a tremendous success. Only an infinitesimal amount of fraud has ever been detected. Voting by mail has allowed many more people to participate, and ensured much more broad representation for the people of Oregon.

Removing the right to participate via mailed ballots is an appalling suggestion. Please mark down my strongest opposition to SB 210.