

Submitter:	Robin Casey
On Behalf Of:	self
Committee:	Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB210

I object to this bill for a number of reasons:

1.) It makes voting inaccessible to an overwhelming amount of Oregonians. Mail voting is imperative to the legislative process in our state because it allows individuals to vote who are employed, disabled, or otherwise unable to stand in a voting queue to cast their ballot. It gives individuals the opportunity to sit with their ballot and the informational pamphlet to read through the choices and make educated decisions on who they would like to vote for. It helps mitigate voting-booth traffic and avoids leaving people unable to vote for having not made it to the front of the queue in time. If all Oregonians were to attempt to vote in the same places at the same time, it would be entirely unmanageable. It would disable the votes of people who work in emergency services, public service, and community workers alike who are unable to take the time due to crisis management, official obligation, or in some instances cannot afford to take unpaid time to stand in line to vote due to the rising cost of living. It gives ample time for voters to read, decide, and deliver their vote without disrupting livelihoods or paychecks to complete their civic duty.

2.) Taking this option away from Oregonians re-institutes a barrier we already decided could be changed and does not create a positive trajectory for our local and statewide communities. As a state, we collectively decided to make this option a possibility. There has been little to no evidence of actual, intentional fraud by this method. If anything, the systems in place to verify identity between DMV records and election records has made it relatively difficult to spoof.

3.) The current federal government's assertion that this method of voting is unnecessary, fraudulent, or unmanageable in anyway is incorrect. It should also be illegal as it severely limits or obstructs the power to vote for even one Oregonian constituent, and that is unconstitutional.

I disagree with this bill on the premise that this is a freedom that should be granted to ALL Oregonians - and to no argument about participation or lack thereof - it should be an inalienable right to be able to participate in a democratic rite and obligation for one's community, state, and nation.