

Submitter: Nicole Matson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

Dear Members of the Senate Rules Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 210, which proposes to repeal Oregon's vote-by-mail system, impose mandatory voter ID requirements, and restrict voting to in-person on Election Day.

#### Vote-By-Mail Ensures Access and Participation

Oregon's vote-by-mail system has been a national model for secure, accessible, and efficient elections since its implementation in 1998. The system has consistently led to high voter participation rates and ensures that all eligible voters—including seniors, people with disabilities, and working families—can easily exercise their right to vote without barriers.

#### Eliminating Vote-By-Mail Would Disenfranchise Voters

Ending vote-by-mail would disproportionately harm vulnerable populations who rely on the convenience and accessibility of this system. Rural voters, individuals with mobility challenges, and those with inflexible work schedules would face significant challenges in accessing in-person voting locations on Election Day.

#### Concerns About Voter Suppression

High voter turnout has always been a hallmark of Oregon's vote-by-mail system. However, it is concerning that efforts to repeal this system could be viewed as an attempt to suppress voter participation under the guise of enhancing security. Limiting voting access disproportionately impacts marginalized communities and undermines the principles of fair and free elections. Oregon's voting system should encourage civic participation, not restrict it.

#### Security and Integrity of Vote-By-Mail

Oregon's vote-by-mail system has built-in safeguards to protect election security and prevent fraud. Each ballot is tracked and verified through signature matching, and the system has maintained a stellar record of integrity. Requiring in-person voting with strict voter ID requirements introduces unnecessary obstacles without improving election security.

## No Evidence Supporting the Need for This Change

There is no credible evidence suggesting that vote-by-mail has led to widespread fraud or compromised election integrity in Oregon. Rather, eliminating a system that has proven both secure and effective would undermine public confidence and reduce participation in the democratic process.

## Preserving Voting Access for All Oregonians

I urge you to reject SB 210 and preserve Oregon's vote-by-mail system to ensure that all eligible voters—regardless of their circumstances—continue to have fair and accessible options to participate in elections.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicole Matson  
Portland, OR