

Submitter:

Dana Etherton

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Vote by mail has been highly successful, promoting greater access to the ballot box since its inception. I live in a small rural community and am a retired rural letter carrier that has witnessed that older and less mobile citizens as well as myself have greatly benefited from vote by mail. It has allowed me time to research the candidates and issues more fully to make informed voting decisions. Our current federal administration has been working at a feverish pace to dismantle vital agencies and ignore our constitution. They have promoted lies about the safety and efficacy of vote by mail to tilt election outcomes in their favor. Requiring in person voting on election day only leans toward that outcome. The increasing polarization of political parties with a growing distrust of anyone who has opinions that differ from the President also promotes a militaristic approach toward poll workers and intimidation of voters. I don't know if the reasoning is cost effectiveness or anything like that, but cost should not trump free and fair elections via vote by mail.