

Submitter: Jennifer Gunter

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I support Senate Bill 210, a step to restore trust, tradition, and efficiency in Oregon's elections by making in-person voting the standard. This bill, aligns with our state and federal constitutional values, enhancing our democracy. In an era of bad faith tactics and wasteful spending, it's a clear choice that affords more power back to Oregon citizens. I urge its approval for these reasons:

SB 210 fortifies election integrity, a cornerstone of Oregon Constitution Article II, Section 1's promise of "free and equal" elections. Requiring photo ID at polling places or for mail ballot requests (Sections 1, 4) ensures only citizens and taxpayers—qualified electors under Article II, Section 2—shape issues affecting legal Oregonians, mirroring federal standards in the Help America Vote Act (52 U.S.C. § 21083). Mandating ballots by 8 p.m. on election day (Sections 5-7) eliminates post-election uncertainty, upheld by *Bush v. Gore* (531 U.S. 98, 2000) for equal protection under the Fourteenth Amendment and *DNC v. Wisconsin* (141 S. Ct. 28, 2020), which ruled post-election receipt unconstitutional under 3 U.S.C. § 1's federal deadline. These thwart bad faith manipulations, rebuilding faith in a transparent system reflecting the legal voice of the people—a trend eight states like Ohio and North Carolina have embraced by tightening in-person ID since 2020.

This bill revives the noble tradition of in-person voting (Sections 1-2), a democratic ritual predating 1998's vote-by-mail shift. The U.S. Constitution's Article I, Section 4 grants Oregon this authority, and SB 210 uses it to unite us at the polls. Yet it ensures access—electors unable to vote in person can request mail ballots (Section 1(2)), protected by the Fourteenth Amendment and Oregon's Article II, Section 8. Military and overseas electors retain vote-by-mail (Section 1(4)), honoring the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. § 20302).

Financially, SB 210 saves millions by ending state-paid postage (Section 16), curbing wasteful spending per Article IX, Section 1's fiscal duty. Submitting this to a referendum (Section 31) embodies Article IV, Section 1's direct democracy, letting citizens affirm their legal voice with more power, guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution's Article IV, Section 4 guarantee of representative government. SB 210 ensures only Oregon's citizens and taxpayers decide our future with transparent accountability.

Vote YES to affirm our democratic strength.

Jennifer Gunter,

Wasco County Oregon
Come on