

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

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Mail-in voting has been crucial to my ability to vote. I first experienced mail-in voting when I served in the military and I now feel all voting citizens of the U.S.A. should be able to mail in their votes. Mail-in voting gives me the opportunity to sit at home with my ballot, carefully read and research issues and candidates, and make my decisions in my own time. I can then submit my ballot at a time that works for me. I know several people with anxiety around going to gatherings and they just won't go to many places, but mail-in ballots eliminate that concern. I also find I can't stand in lines long - I often feel faint after a while and have to leave, which works against me in situations such as long poll lines. Furthermore, I know many people with who have a history of health problems that sometimes force them to stay home unexpectedly. In-person voting takes away the rights of all those people who can't get to their voting place on an assigned single day in time, including the elderly, the disabled, caregivers who have to be in place for family members, the many sick or injured citizens at any given time, anyone required to travel for work (truckers, aircrew, etc.), and those involved with unscheduled services (emergency workers, surgeons, nurses, etc.). In-person voting allows for influence by employers - though employers may not prevent voting, they can still make it hard to get to a polling station, especially for workers who have difficulties with transportation arrangements. Mail-in voting makes it possible for more Americans to vote, which is a civic duty. Why block people from voting? The only reason I can think anyone would want to make it HARDER for people to vote is if they wanted to influence election outcomes, which is illegal in and of itself. So, I believe having only in-person voting should be outlawed. Oregon's mail in voting is a good example that all states should follow to get the most accurate election outcomes. If the concern is people voting illegally through mail in voting, there are enough studies already done to show there are not enough infractions to influence the vote (in fact, the illegal voting seems to often be done by the exact same communities that shout out against voting fraud). Clearly, the many disenfranchised voters impacted by in-person voting laws would greatly outweigh the small number of illegal voters. **ABSOLUTE NO TO IN-PERSON VOTING LAWS!** President Trump, himself, votes through mail-in voting as he has a busy schedule. Let that loudly speak to our need to eliminate the requirement for in-person voting on election dates and instead go to mail-in voting for the entire U.S.A.