

Submitter: David Munoz
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

To the Senate Committee on Rules,

As an Oregon citizen I am appalled by State Senator David Brock Smith's lightly veiled threat to rob thousands of fellow Oregonians of their right to vote through this farce of a bill entitled SB 210. I was proud of my adopted state when it was the first in the nation to make "Vote by Mail" the standard for all elections. This well liked voting process allows Oregonians several weeks to study and finalize their stances on local measures, local government positions, state-wide offices, and of course federal offices as well. It is a pleasure to be able to enjoy a cup of coffee or a beer and complete the voting process in the comfort of home and not feel the pressure and frustration of voting at a precinct that would likely have long lines in inclement weather on only ONE DAY. This archaic method discriminates against many Oregon voters who have disabilities or hardships to get to polling sites. My own 90 year-old father-in-law would find it near impossible to vote since he is partially paralyzed and transporting him, and his 89 year-old wife, would be a hardship and possibly dangerous given inclement weather conditions. Many Oregonians do not have the luxury of taking time off work to vote and would face long lines in the evening after a full day's work. Vote by Mail is a fantastic way to allow ALL OREGON VOTERS the opportunity and time to cast their ballot by and on election day and encourage more participation by eligible voters.

It is obvious that State Senator Brock is following the Republican playbook to make voting harder for the majority of voters and therefore working towards suppressing the voice of the majority of Oregonians. This is nothing more than an extension of President Trump's "Project 2025" to limit access and opportunity to vote of those who would likely vote against Republicans and their legislation. Oregon already assures that only American citizens residing in Oregon are allowed to vote. And should the state senator claim that Oregon's "Vote by Mail" is ripe for abuse and illegal voting, please note that there has only really been one major incident of abuse of the Vote-by-Mail process and that was by a REPUBLICAN in Clackamas County who was criminally charged and found guilty of this abuse.

We don't need more restrictive legislation that goes beyond what Oregon already requires of voters to register to vote. The goal of our state government is to foster more engagement and participation by Oregonians and not set out to limit their ability to participate in the electoral process. This proposed legislation does exactly that; It sends us backwards in time to where only well connected white folk were the ones to

decide elections. State Senator Brock should be ashamed for even proposing such a preposterous bill in SB 210.