

Submitter: Loy Volkman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

Andrea Good

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Bear Creek

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20h · Edited

For example, if you oppose the measure to end voting by mail, you could write something like this: Subject: Testimony Opposing SB 210: Protecting Oregon's Successful Vote-by-Mail

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my firm opposition to Senate Bill 210, which seeks to dismantle Oregon's long-standing and highly effective vote-by-mail system. This system has served our state well for decades, promoting high voter participation and ensuring accessible elections for all Oregonians.

The proposed changes in SB 210 would create unnecessary obstacles for many of our citizens, particularly those who are already marginalized. Specifically, working families, senior citizens, and individuals with disabilities rely heavily on the convenience and ease of mail-in voting. Removing this option would directly suppress their ability to exercise their fundamental right to vote.

Let us be clear: Oregon's vote-by-mail system is not broken. It is a model of efficiency and security. We have consistently demonstrated that mail-in ballots can be administered with integrity, utilizing safeguards such as signature verification and detailed tracking. Claims of widespread voter fraud are unfounded and do not justify the drastic measures proposed in SB 210.

Furthermore, the financial implications of reverting to traditional polling places would be substantial. This shift would necessitate significant expenditures on infrastructure, staffing, and equipment, placing an unnecessary burden on taxpayers. Conversely, our current system is both efficient and cost-effective.

The advantages of our vote-by-mail system are undeniable:

Enhanced Accessibility: It provides a convenient and inclusive voting experience for all Oregon residents, irrespective of their work schedules, physical limitations, or geographical location.

Consistent High Turnout: It contributes to our state's consistently high voter participation rates, ensuring that our elections accurately reflect the will of the people.

Proven Security: It incorporates robust security protocols that protect the integrity of every ballot cast.

Fiscal Responsibility: It is a financially sound system that saves taxpayer dollars while maintaining high standards of election administration.

In conclusion, SB 210 is a detrimental step that would disenfranchise voters and burden our state with unnecessary costs. I urge you to reject this bill and preserve Oregon's successful vote-by-mail system. Let us protect the accessibility and integrity of our elections for all Oregonians.

Sincerely,
Loy Volkman