Submitter: Hannah Wolsiefer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I am here to strongly oppose SB210, which seeks to make in-person voting on Election Day the standard method for conducting elections in our state.

This bill poses significant risks to voter access, election security, and citizens' participation. While in-person voting is an essential component of our electoral system, restricting voters to a single day disregards the needs of many citizens who rely on vote-by-mail and early voting options. These options are not just conveniences; they are critical to ensuring every eligible voter can participate without unnecessary barriers.

Key Concerns with SB210:

Reduces Voter Access: Many voters—especially seniors, working parents, individuals with disabilities, and those with unpredictable work schedules—depend on mail-in ballots and early voting to ensure their voices are heard. Eliminating these options will disenfranchise countless eligible voters who cannot easily reach the polls on Election Day, including a large number of republicans and veterans who are disabled.

Creates Logistical Challenges: Moving to an exclusively in-person Election Day model would increase the burden on election officials, polling places, and voters alike. Long lines, limited polling locations, and potential equipment failures could lead to significant delays and prevent voters from casting their ballots. We already don't have enough staff for basic jobs in this state, no one will want to do this job.

Jeopardizes Election Security and Integrity: Expanding secure vote-by-mail and early voting methods has been shown to enhance election security by reducing the risk of system overload and ensuring thorough verification processes. Forcing all voters to cast their ballots on a single day increases the likelihood of disruptions and system failures that could undermine public confidence in election outcomes.

Disregards Proven Success of Current Systems: Our existing system has demonstrated that a combination of in-person, early, and mail-in voting increases voter turnout and makes elections more resilient. There is no justification for rolling back these proven methods.

SB210 is a step backward for voting rights and election accessibility. Rather than

restricting voting options, we should be expanding them to ensure that every eligible voter can participate in our democracy. I urge you to oppose this bill and protect the right of all voters to have fair and accessible voting opportunities.