

Submitter: Connor Salisbury  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I strongly oppose SB 210, a misguided attempt to dismantle Oregon's pioneering vote-by-mail system. For over four decades, Oregon has led the nation in secure, accessible, and high-participation elections. Our grassroots vote-by-mail system strengthens civic engagement by making voting easier for all Oregonians—particularly seniors, students, working families, and those facing logistical barriers to in-person voting. It is a model that other states have sought to emulate, not dismantle.

SB 210 claims to fix a problem that does not exist. The bill's proponents invoke the specter of voter fraud, yet extensive research and decades of evidence confirm that fraudulent voting is statistically negligible. The real impact of SB 210 would be to erect unnecessary barriers—such as in-person voting requirements and added ID verification—that disproportionately burden legal voters, reducing participation rather than enhancing election security.

As a voting reform advocate and a registered Pacific Green Party voter, I acknowledge that Oregon's system is not perfect. Non-affiliated voters (NAVs) and third-party voters like myself do not receive equal access in the primary process. However, the solution is not to dismantle a system that has served Oregonians well, but rather to expand its inclusivity. We should focus on reforms that strengthen voter access for all, not introduce roadblocks that undermine our state's longstanding commitment to democratic participation.

SB 210 is not a reform — it is a step backward. Oregonians should reject this unnecessary, restrictive proposal and continue to champion the voting system that has made our state a leader in voter access and civic engagement, while hopefully adding to and reforming, like Oregon Motor Voter Act in 2016, building toward an even better system with higher participation e.g. reform toward fully equal benefits from this system for those not registered with the duopoly parties — throwing out the existing system for minor issues would be wrong, remedying with reforms would be better, but throwing out the existing system to offer state level cover for the present Rumpist fascist executive overreach ignoring Oregon's state's rights based on made up phantom 'illegal voter' problems which don't exist would be foolish and very un-Oregonian.

Thank you, Sincerely Connor Salisbury (Pacific Green Party reserve SCC, Eugene Oregon)