

Submitter: DJ Fletcher
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210
March 31, 2025

Members of The Senate Committee on Rules
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE,
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: OPPOSITION TO SB 210, THE MEASURE TO END OREGON'S VOTE-BY-MAIL ELECTIONS

Dear Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee:

As an Oregon voter, I urge you to reject SB 210, the measure that would require in-person voting in our state.

Vote-by-mail is a successful voting system for Oregon that does not need to be changed. Voter verification is done by elections offices at the county level, and our counties faithfully administer their responsibility of verifying new voters in their jurisdictions.

The vote-by-mail method is very, very important to senior citizens, citizens with disabilities or illnesses, and citizens in rural areas. Being able to vote by mail is a vital civic engagement tool for any registered voter whose circumstances constrain his or her ability to get to the polls in person.

When I think about the value of vote-by-mail, I think of the many people who have mobility constraints due to age -- like myself -- or lack of mobility due to disability or illness. Also, I think of the many people who have transportation constraints due to lack of finances (re. cost of fuel, car repair, etc.) and/or lack of public transportation to polls from their rural areas. And what about all the voters who cannot travel the long distances to polls from their rural areas because of constraints like bad travel weather or long work hours (especially in ranching and farming)?

In thinking about my testimony, it occurred to me that there are many citizens (and their carers) who happen to be in hospital or home rehab or hospice on their voting day: Do they not deserve to have vote-by-mail in order to enable their civic engagement?

Please vote no on SB 210.

Sincerely,
DJ Fletcher

[Submitted electronically at OLIS testimony portal.]