

Submitter: Maddalena DiRienzo  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Oregon Senate Bill 210.

Oregon has consistently demonstrated the advantages of mail-in voting since the 1990s. Since 2000, mail-in ballots in Oregon have included the US Presidential election, resulting in one of the nation's highest voter turnouts (always in the top 10). Moreover, instances of voter fraud in Oregon are comparable to or lower than in other states.

Mail-in voting empowers Oregon residents to avoid missing work or taking time off to stand in line on Election Day. It accommodates individuals with mobility issues, limited transportation, or those residing in rural areas. Requiring Oregon residents to exclusively vote in person is a significant step backward. Shouldn't the objective of a democratic nation be to encourage more citizens to participate in the electoral process? Shouldn't we strive to make voting, our Constitutional right, more accessible? I am skeptical of any leader or legislation that aims to make voting more challenging.

Oregon's success in mail-in voting has been cited as a model for other states to adopt voting laws.

Why would our legislators want to alter something that, not only is not flawed but also functions effectively?

Approving SB210 and sending it to the voters would be a waste of government resources. I urge the current legislature to halt this bill and preserve Oregon's current voting system.