

Submitter:

Michael Kilpatrick

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I'm strongly opposed to changing the rules on how elections are conducted in Oregon. We have demonstrated enduring evidence that a vote by mail system can be run efficiently and smoothly and without fraud. I believe that required in-person voting is another method used to limit access to the vote by making it more difficult for elderly, disabled, and those with little access to polling places to successfully cast their ballot. Vote by mail makes it much more difficult to enact voter suppression tactics and voter intimidation efforts, and it limits the number of logistical challenges faced by the state. Unfortunately, we have a long and nefarious history of limiting access to polls for underrepresented groups and I believe the recent push to abolish vote by mail is another attempt at voter suppression. It isn't broken. Stand your ground.

Further, unless voting day is a national holiday where employers are required to let people off work to vote, resources for child care are provided for all, and we have guarantees on the number of polling places based on per capita allocation by municipality this issue is a non-starter.