

Submitter:

Jason Whitson

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Mail-in voting has been the single greatest contributor to voter participation and turnout that the country has seen. Washington and Oregon regularly see over 75% turnout for presidential elections due to their mail-in voting. No claim of significant voter fraud has EVER been substantiated.

Mail-in voting also counter acts the willful disenfranchisement of poor and/or minority voters, that regularly see in-person voting disrupted by things like suspicious power failures preventing voter machines from operating, insufficient voter locations in places where voters are likely to not vote the way the authorities want them to, long line short hours etc etc etc. There's no evidence to support voter fraud when it comes to mail in voting, but they're endless examples of voter suppression facilitated by in-person only voting.

Mail-in voting also allows people to do their research in the comfort of their own homes, with the full breadth of their resources available to them to educate themselves on their decisions for their ballots. And as we've known for a long time, Republican leadership fears nothing, more, then a well-educated voter.

Mail-in voting is also significantly cheaper than in-person voting both in just the basic base costs, in the ultimate cost per ballot cast. To the tune of 1/3 to 1/5 the cost per ballot.

In person voting is an archaic, obsolete, Paleolithic method of voting that serves only to benefit a political party that is equally archaic obsolete and Paleolithic.

In person voting creates unnecessary barriers to participation for people who do not have the time and/or means to travel to a scarce set of locations during an extremely limited window of time. It's no surprise that in-person voting is most supported by white, management-class, above middle age voters who can easily access a voting location AND take the time to do it.

Countless stories from young first time would-be voters have flooded the internet where their employers illegally prevented them from taking time off work to go vote (because it would disrupt the business). As well as stories from poor, disabled, and/or minority voters not having access to convenient, accessible voting locations despite that being their legal right.

It's easy to claim that there's requirements for in-person voting to not suppress

people's right to vote, but the overwhelming truth is that those legal requirements get violated every time there's a vote and there's no meaningful enforcement or accountability, especially in the context of the impacted elections already being ratified.

Mail-in voting makes it a lot more difficult to disrupt the vote, which is why a particular part that specifically relies on certain voters NOT voting keeps pushing for it.

Support mail-in voting.