

Submitter: Kip S

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

Vote-by-mail is a highly accessible means of voting which has been used in Oregon to great success for over 25 years. The accessibility of mail-in ballots promotes civic participation, so voting by mail should be encouraged, not limited and certainly not banned.

Many voters rely on mail-in ballots for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to disabilities, lack of identification documents, lack of access to transportation, and inability to take time off work to visit a voting booth. None of these barriers should bar eligible voters from casting their ballots. Notably, most Democratic countries conduct elections on weekends to encourage civic participation, while the U.S. holds elections on Tuesdays, effectively barring many workers (especially low-income workers) from voting in-person.

Moreover, Trump's recent executive orders make it difficult or even impossible for marginalized folks to receive accurate identification documents, particularly transgender people and immigrants, making mail-in ballots even more crucial to ensure eligible voters can continue to make their voices heard.

SB 210 would inevitably worsen these inequities by creating more barriers to civic participation. Please vote "no" on this repressive bill.