

Argument against SB210

Oregon has a very good, strong history of vote by mail. My husband and I are old enough to remember going to the ballot places and doing our voting in person. In person voting was a giant pain – hard to make it to the ballot places on time when working full time, hard to remember all the candidates and ballot measures and what we thought about them, and – most importantly, I think – impossible to teach the younger generations how to vote intelligently. My parents never talked to me about voting – just that you “had” to do it.

In contrast, vote by mail gives each voter the time to vote intelligently, thoughtfully, in our own time, and to provide an example to our kids on how to do this properly. Vote by mail has allowed us, as a household, to take the time to teach our kids to think about the candidates, read the ballot measures, discuss the pros and cons about the measures and candidates, while maintaining the importance of voting. My son votes every election because we do it as a family. My husband and I vote every election because we do it as a family, and can do it on our own time, outside of work hours, in the privacy and comfort of our homes.

Oregon has a model system for vote by mail, and it was developed and strengthened over time. Vote by mail gives everyone who is registered the ability to thoughtfully and consistently vote. It should NOT be reversed.