

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I strongly oppose SB 210; voting is an essential right for citizens and thus should be as accessible as possible, and SB 210 would critically limit the accessibility of voting throughout the state. The vote-by-mail system helps to foster wider reach and political participation in the citizenship because it is a simple process for the individual, and SB 210 would unnecessarily complicate that process for no good reason. There is no evidence or pattern to show that Oregon's vote-by-mail system does not work, so what is the reason for SB 210's proposal to change the standard voting method to in-person? Why can we not continue to vote-by-mail and work to improve the good system we already have? SB 210's changing of the system by which Oregonians vote only serves to put a barrier between citizens and their constitutional right to vote and make it more difficult to exercise that right. SB 210 only serves to muffle and silence the voices of voters across Oregon, from whatever background or ideology, and make it harder for people to influence and shape the communities in which they live.