

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

Voting by mail is the best way of allowing informed voting decisions. Armed with the Oregon voting guide and a ballot, a voter can make reasoned choices for initiatives, school bond issues and candidates. Doing this can take hours, even days if the person wishes to reach out to organizations sponsoring an issue or candidate. This is not possible with in-person voting.

As you have seen, voting by mail increases participation in our democracy, allowing a much larger part of the electorate to cast a ballot in each election. It is sad in a democracy that the turnout is not close to 100%, but voting by mail assures more people help decide our government and our way of life.

Those who propose this law want to manipulate voting and reduce the number who make decisions, leaving out the elderly, the sick, the working poor---all those with much to lose from the wrong policies and the wrong candidates. They will represent this as a way to prevent ineligible voters from submitting a ballot. It is more likely that more people will not vote who are eligible than the number of people who vote today who are ineligible. This bill is a solution for a problem which statistically does not exist and would remove people from voting who should and could vote.