

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

As a lifelong Oregonian, I have boasted to my out of state friends and family about how wonderful and accessible our current voting system is. It is so much easier to receive a ballot in the mail, fill it out on my own time, and head down to my mailbox to send it off than it is to take time off my job to stand at a polling booth all day long. To take this privilege away from Oregonians is dangerous. If we lose this method of voting, this will lead to lower voter turnout because folks will struggle to take time off their demanding, exhausting jobs to be able to vote (especially those in positions such as emergency personnel), not to mention this raises an issue of accessibility for disabled voters who may not be able to reach a polling booth, especially given the unpredictability of November weather can make it that much harder to leave the house to vote in person. We need to keep our mailing system intact and in person restricted voting will hurt us far more than it will help. Mail in voting has worked well in this state for so many years and it is a complete disservice to Oregon voters to take that away from them.