

Submitter: Sidney Broadley  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I strongly oppose SB-210 ending vote-by-mail in Oregon.

?Senate Bill 210 proposes a shift from Oregon's established vote-by-mail system to predominantly in-person voting, a move that would significantly reduce voter participation by imposing barriers for individuals with disabilities, the elderly, and those residing in remote areas. The bill's requirement for government-issued photo identification disenfranchise eligible voters who lack such documentation, effectively suppressing their right to vote. Oregon's vote-by-mail system has a proven track record of enhancing voter turnout and ensuring electoral integrity; dismantling it in favor of in-person voting lacks justification and undermines decades of successful practice. The proposed changes could lead to increased administrative costs and logistical challenges, straining county resources and potentially causing confusion among voters. Maintaining the current vote-by-mail system preserves accessibility, convenience, and the democratic principle of inclusive participation for all eligible Oregonians.

As somebody with a disability, voting by mail enables me, and many others, to vote. I believe it is important for all voices to be heard— not just the able-bodied's. The result is that more voters are engaged with politics, community is strengthened, and voters feel more fulfilled because they are able to represent their community. Choices are made every day that are entirely outside of my control yet still affect me significantly. Voting allows me to make my own choice on matters that affect myself and my community. To take that away would be an admission that disabled people's rights are not as important as the able-bodied's.