

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I have lived and voted in many different jurisdictions over my life. I find that the current mail in vote process in Oregon very effective. It is convient and has the potential to have a higher voter participation because of the ease of access and flexibility on voting timing. I also think having career county employees that understand systems are a more professional and cost effective way of conducting voting (i.e. fewer vote counting machines and people needed as vote counting has more load balancing of work flow). The ability to track that your vote has been recieved is also a very great system in Oregon.

Having a one day in person voting system has many disadvantages: 1) voters may have conflicts on the specific date and unable to vote, 2) voters without transportation may be excluded, 3) it puts a bigger burden on rural voters to get to a polling station, 4) politcal interference is enabled by polling stations being limited in number or difficult to access for certain classes of voters to access (has been demonstrated often in the USA), 5) intimidation at or near polls can happen, 6) hiring of temporary poll workers can be politicized