

Submitter: Alexa Welle

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

My name is Alexa Welle, and I am writing to strongly oppose SB 210. This bill threatens the accessibility, security, and success of Oregon's elections by severely restricting vote-by-mail, imposing unnecessary voter ID requirements, and creating barriers to participation for many Oregonians.

Oregon has long been a national leader in voter access, with our vote-by-mail system ensuring high turnout and election security for decades. SB 210 would dismantle this proven system by mandating in-person voting as the default and limiting mail-in ballots to only a select few. This would disproportionately harm seniors, people with disabilities, rural voters, working families, and those who face difficulties getting to a polling place on Election Day.

Additionally, requiring government-issued photo ID to vote or request a mail-in ballot creates an unnecessary and discriminatory burden. Many Oregonians, especially low-income individuals, elderly residents, and people with disabilities, lack easy access to these forms of identification. This requirement does nothing to improve election security but will certainly disenfranchise eligible voters.

SB 210 also eliminates state-paid return postage for mail-in ballots, placing yet another financial and logistical hurdle between voters and the ballot box. These restrictions add up to a clear effort to make voting harder, not more secure.

Our current system is secure, efficient, and trusted by Oregonians. It has worked for decades without widespread issues of fraud or mismanagement. The changes proposed in SB 210 do not solve any real problems—instead, they create new ones by restricting access to the ballot and undermining the fundamental right to vote.

I urge you to reject SB 210 and protect Oregon's history of fair, accessible, and secure elections. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Alexa Welle