

Submitter: Julie Niles-Fry
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210
Testimony in Support of SB 210

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing today in strong support of SB 210. Oregon's current mail-in voting system, shared by only seven other states and Washington, D.C., raises concerns about election integrity and accountability. To restore public trust in our elections, we must return to in-person voting with voter ID requirements and local precinct ballot counting.

Elections are the foundation of our democracy, and when voting is conducted primarily by mail, we lose essential safeguards that ensure accuracy and security. Requiring in-person voting strengthens the integrity of our elections by verifying voter identity, reducing the risk of fraud, and keeping the process transparent at the community level.

Furthermore, voting is about more than just casting a ballot—it is about participating as a community. A community that votes together stays together. When we vote in person, we reinforce our shared commitment to democracy and civic engagement. Sending our votes away weakens this connection and reduces the cohesion of our communities.

SB 210 takes a balanced approach by still allowing mail-in voting for military, overseas voters, and those with an out-of-state mailing address while ensuring that the majority of voters participate in person. This is a necessary step to protect fair and free elections in Oregon.

I urge you to pass SB 210 and restore confidence in our electoral process.

Respectfully,
Julie Niles-Fry
Rogue River, Oregon