

Submitter: Joni Anjali
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210
Regarding Senate Bill 210:

I, Joni Anjali, oppose voting in person in Oregon because this is just another thinly veiled voter-suppression tactic being used by desperate republicans to take away Oregonian's right to mail-in voting that has worked perfectly well for Oregonians since 1998. You can't fix what's not broken. Seniors and people with disabilities rely on mail-in voting to make their voice count. And what if an adult or their child has an unexpected illness, injury, or surgery on election day? What about essential workers such as doctors and nurses at hospitals who can't leave to go vote because they are busy keeping their patients alive in surgery or in the ICU? Not everyone has the luxury of leaving work whenever they want to. So many unexpected life events are possible every day for all of us. Mail-in voting helps make sure we can cast our vote no matter what circumstances life throws at us.

As for the unfounded argument that mail-in voting isn't safe and secure...

This quote / statistic is found on the Oregon Secretary of State website:

"A review of the vote by mail system by the state's Legislative Fiscal Office found from 2000-2019 there were approximately 61 million ballots cast. Of those, 38 criminal convictions of voter fraud were obtained (over 19 years). This amounts to a .00006% rate."

Brennan Center for Justice article "The Myth of Voter Fraud" states:

"...Politicians at all levels of government have repeatedly, and falsely, claimed the 2016, 2018, and 2020 elections were marred by large numbers of people voting illegally. However extensive research reveals that fraud is very rare, voter impersonation is virtually nonexistent, and many instances of alleged fraud are, in fact, mistakes by voters or administrators. The same is true for mail ballots, which are secure and essential..."

Noncitizens are not permitted to vote in state and federal elections. It's a federal crime for noncitizens to register or vote in federal elections, and it's a crime under every state's laws. So it should come as no surprise that every legitimate study ever done on the question shows that voting by noncitizens in state and federal elections

is vanishingly rare.

The Brennan Center's seminal report *The Truth About Voter Fraud* conclusively demonstrated that most allegations of fraud turn out to be baseless and that most of the few remaining allegations reveal irregularities and other forms of election misconduct. Numerous other studies, including one commissioned by the Trump administration, have reached the same conclusion.

Voter fraud is unacceptable, but we must find solutions that address actual problems instead of imposing policies that make it harder for millions of eligible Americans to participate in our democracy..."

Please vote no on this oppressive, unpatriotic Senate Bill 210, and preserve mail-in voting in Oregon.

Thank you,

Joni Anjali