

Submitter:

Karen Olsen

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I attended a meeting of the Coos County Commissioners not long ago in which the previous County Clerk expressed support for mail in voting. She noted that in person voting had its own issues and difficulties and added significant costs (money our county does not have). She had nothing bad to say about mail in voting. Prior to the change to all mail in voting I, personally, always requested a absentee ballot. I had a full time job and 2 young children. My polling place was several miles from my home. I just didn't work for me to drive 12 miles home and then rush off to drive another 6 miles to vote in person. There are many working people, people with disabilities, caretakers of children or others with special needs, people without transportation etc. that will be disenfranchised by one day walk in voting. Also, would I still be able to check on line to know my vote was counted? Or could someone throw my vote in the trash and I would never know. How do I know can trust the people working at a polling place? Mail in voting seems much more secure to me as all the ballots are delivered and processed in the County Clerk's office with supervision. Senator Smith has come up with a very bad idea in an effort to prove his loyalty to his Republican leader. He is not motivated by concern for his constituents.