

Submitter: Candice Freedman
On Behalf Of: Myself
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

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Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Opposition to SB 210 – Protecting Oregon's Vote-by-Mail System

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 210, which seeks to eliminate Oregon's widely successful vote-by-mail system, impose strict voter ID requirements, and mandate in-person voting on Election Day. This bill represents a significant step backward for voter access and participation in our state.

For over two decades, Oregon's vote-by-mail system has been a model of security, efficiency, and accessibility. It has increased voter turnout, reduced election costs, and ensured that all eligible voters—especially seniors, rural residents, people with disabilities, and those with demanding work schedules—can participate in our democracy without unnecessary barriers. Ending this system would disenfranchise countless Oregonians who rely on it.

Furthermore, strict voter ID laws disproportionately impact historically marginalized communities, including low-income individuals, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Oregon already has strong safeguards in place to ensure election integrity without creating unnecessary hurdles for eligible voters.

Requiring all voters to cast their ballots in person on a single day also ignores the realities of modern life. Many Oregonians juggle work, childcare, and other responsibilities that make it difficult to get to the polls on Election Day. Vote-by-mail provides flexibility while maintaining the security and accuracy of our elections.

I urge you to reject SB 210 and uphold Oregon's tradition of accessible, secure, and fair elections. Our democracy functions best when every eligible voter can cast their ballot without undue hardship. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Candice Freedman