

Submitter: Twila Jacobsen  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

Testimony in Opposition to Senate Bill 210  
Submitted to the Oregon Senate Committee on Rules  
Chair Jama, Vice Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee,  
Introduction

My name is Twila Jacobsen. I am currently the President of SEIU503 Retiree Local 001. I am in strong opposition of Senate Bill 210, which seeks to make in-person voting on Election Day the standard method for conducting elections in Oregon while limiting vote-by-mail options and imposing stringent identification requirements. I believe this bill undermines the ability to vote, especially for elders with limited means of mobility and transportation.

Oregon has been a pioneer in implementing a universal vote-by-mail system, which has significantly increased voter participation and streamlined the electoral process. This has positioned Oregon as a national leader in promoting accessible and secure voting practices. The current vote-by-mail system ensures that all Oregonians have an equal opportunity to participate in the democratic process.

In person voting would require the declaration of a national holiday so people who are working can access the polls. Gone are the days when the local church basement, school gym or neighbors' garage are the polling sites. To discourage voting and creating barriers goes against the needs of a democracy, which I hope you are all supportive of maintaining.

I urge you to oppose SB 210 and to continue supporting policies that make voting as accessible and equitable as possible for all citizens.