



A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

To: Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, and Members of the Senate Committee on Rules

FR: Tan Perkins, Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: Oppose SB 210

Date: 03/31/2025

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tan Perkins with the Oregon AFL-CIO. We represent over 300,000 workers and their families and strive to be a voice for all workers in the legislative process. I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 210.

Voting is a right that should be protected at all costs and be made as accessible as possible. Making in-person voting the standard method for elections is not in line with Oregon values. Asking voters to come in person to vote results in lower voter turnout and bars folks who do not have:

1. Have access to a vehicle
2. A work schedule that allows them to vote in person
3. Have access to specific identification forms
4. Do not have a disability or illness
5. And more

This is not a time for Oregon to take a step backward in voting accessibility and voter engagement. The more hurdles we put into place the worse off our democracy is - if we truly want voters to engage in the political process we must ensure that they can do so with relative ease. Moreover, we should not require any kind of cost for folks to participate in democracy, this policy would eliminate state paid postage and create a pay to play system.

Voting by mail is a cornerstone of Oregon elections and has increased voter engagement exponentially. It is one of the most effective, and safe ways to vote. The federal government is attacking voting rights on a grand scale and Oregonians deserve a state where we stand for true and inclusive democracy. Any of the provisions in this policy could result in disenfranchisement of Oregonians, for these reasons we strongly urge your opposition to this policy.



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