

Submitter: Doug Berger

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I strongly oppose any efforts to limit Oregon's mail-in ballot elections and/or to replace with in-person voting requirements.

I've been an Oregon resident long enough to remember when we had to take time off work or alter our schedules to find time to go to a polling place to cast a vote in person, and I have been thankful at every election since Oregon adopted mail-in ballots.

Oregon's mail-in ballot elections allows more Oregonians to vote and participate in our electoral process, which is a very good thing. It also often allows voters to make more informed votes, as many elections we've looked at things on the ballot (as we're filling it out) and see things we want to look up in either the voters pamphlet or even online to make a smarter, more informed decision... that is NOT something anyone can realistically do in a voting booth.. especially with the pressure of other people waiting in line to cast their votes in person.

Oregon should not surrender to those who want to make it harder for Oregonians to vote because they believe it will help to give them outcomes they prefer.

Oregon has often led the country with very positive actions, whether the original bottle bill or access to beaches, and when Oregon adopted the mail-in ballots for elections some 25 years ago, Oregon was a leader yet again. Oregon should not be going backwards, we should continue to lead and set the example for inclusion and equality.