

Submitter: Noah Justice

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I would like to voice my support for SB 210 and am calling for the submission of this question to the people of the State of Oregon for a vote.

I am in support of SB 210 for several reasons.

#1 Personally, I have received multiple ballots from the state of Oregon in spite of having informed the state that I no longer reside within the state on several occasions. Twice while living in Washington State and once while living in Virginia. I am not alone in having received erroneous ballots, as this is something that has also happened to my wife, who received ballots both in her maiden name and while living in Virginia as well. A close friend of my wife had the same issue occur when she also received a ballot in her maiden name for the 2024 election! Given the testimony I listened too at the Public Hearing on Monday, this has become an all to common issue which calls the security and validity of our election into question. This needs to stop.

#2 Having spent several years living in different states, I have also gotten to experience different voting processes. In Virginia specifically I was able to participate in the electoral process in person using the same methods that SB 210 describes. We lived in a rural county and were 30 minutes outside of our nearest major city. In spite of this, the county made a clear effort to reach each and every citizen by putting polling locations within 10 minutes of every citizen of the county. Not only was the process fair and fast, (I presented my ID, I was given a ballot, and then I inserted my ballot into the tabulation machine) I also felt like my vote mattered in a way that voting by mail never has. I was part of the democratic process. I want that same feeling of participation and security for all Oregonian Citizens as well.

The current voting system has many issues and flaws that must be addressed if we are to maintain our fair and free elections. The vote should be in person and conducted by able bodied citizens of the state who care about their local politics. We can and must bring an end to the Vote By Mail system that we currently have in order to preserve our democracy and way of life. And to those who say that every person should have a vote, I would disagree on one point.

If you are not willing or able to get up to the polling station, or to ask for an absentee ballot, you should not be voting in the first place. Doubly so if you are not a citizen of the state.

Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,
A concerned Oregonian.