

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

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I have been told for years that the elections in Oregon are impeccable and without error. However, when people are involved, mistakes and fraud follow. I have been more concerned about the local elections than the national elections because Oregon was one of the first to have mail-in ballots and so it has had time to figure out ways to beat the system with fraudulent methods. After 40 years of living in Oregon and remembering what it was like to vote in person, I was told this year that my ballot did not count in 2024 because I did not sign the envelope. I knew I had because I had talked to some about comparing my signature to my driver's license. I went to the election office and was told they accidentally sent me that letter. What a waste of time. Apparently about 10,000 people in Clackamas County received letters that their vote would not count unless they corrected their signatures. The computers for signature verification are deplorable! It is so much easier to have one day for voting when you show your official identification at a local election site, sign your name beside your registered voter name, and go to a private booth to vote, having already studied the candidates in your voter's pamphlet.

Why are people worried about older people being disenfranchised with in-person voting? Many of us prefer the older method and if we are really incapacitated, can apply for mail-in ballots like the military have been doing for years. We are vulnerable to having our ballots confiscated without our knowledge or coerced to vote for candidates we are not really in favor of. "Loved ones" often fill in ballots that do not belong to them, I believe but cannot personally prove. In addition, I have had people tell me that their relative received two ballots and they were tempted to fill them in because the person was dead, sick, or had moved out of state. Mail-in voting allows people who have moved out of state to vote as well.

Many people in Oregon feel disenfranchised and no longer believe in the integrity of the system. Let's get back to in-person same-day voting with a real ID and cut out the chance of fraud or the perception of fraud. We could get back the results by the next day. If France can do it, so can Oregon!