

Submitter: Samantha Caruthers-Knight

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

Mandatory in person voting will reduce voter turnout. Getting to the poles is challenging for even those with the time and inclination to do so and may be impossible for those with transportation challenges or who lack child care/time off etc. The extra step of having to request an absentee ballot will also be a deterrent for many. Moreover there seems to be no reason to change a system which has been working very well for quite some time in Oregon. While I am not opposed to change when it is warranted this change seems like it will invite opportunities for things to fall through the cracks in the transition.

This is a measure designed to limit voter turnout and thereby consolidate power. it also creates opportunities for MORE fraud and manipulation of voters not less. I am proud to be an Oregonian, in part because we are often on the leading edge of practices that create a more fair and equal democracy. This would be a move in the opposite direction. I am wholeheartedly against this measure. Universal vote by mail is good for Oregon and good for democracy.