

Submitter: Noelle Goodenberger

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I am appalled that the Oregon legislature is considering this bill. Vote by mail is by far the best way to conduct elections - it is safe, secure, and accessible. Voting in person, by contrast, presents a significant barrier to voting for many Oregonians, particularly low-income voters who are less likely to have time to wait in line at the polls. This difference is evident in the voter turnout data collected since vote by mail was introduced in Oregon over 40 years ago.

Democracy only works as far as the people are able to participate. Changing the election standard to in-person voting and implementing more stringent voter ID rules is voter suppression, plain and simple. Any argument against vote by mail is a bad faith attempt to prevent people from voting and thus undermine our democracy. This bill, and any similar efforts in the future, must be roundly rejected.