

Submitter: Fred Muraviov

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I would like Oregon to retain mail-in voting for both state and federal elections. That is the only way I've known how to vote and I would never have it any other way. Ever since it was legal for me to do so, I've voted in every single election (except for a one mid-term back when I was younger). I would attest that without the ability to utilize mail-in voting, I would have hardly voted as there weren't many opportunities to take the day off or make the possible all-day trip over to the voting booths/areas. This spans all the way back to voting while in high school, then college (working part-time while attending), and also working various jobs where taking time-off wasn't very easy to do. My view of voting, if forced to do it in-person on election day, would be skewed to believe that it was designed on purpose to be inconvenient and only for those who can afford such time. That's not American. To vote and being offered the greatest amount of options on how to do so is American. Oregon has proven that it has done it year after year in a secure and transparent fashion.

Mail-in voting is a show of respect to my time and I reward such trust by doing the proper research on each candidate. I believe that I'm able to pick the correct candidate for the job due to this and I don't feel rushed when doing so. I'm also able to discuss my research with others and see what they think of the candidates. I also have seen that our state ranks high up on the percentage of those who vote in every election and I don't believe there's any coincidence that it has everything to do with our great working system. Why change what already works well?

Please retain mail-in voting as it opens up the opportunity for all to make their voices heard. I have 2 people in my life who aren't mobile. They deserve to vote just like anyone else and taking away mail-in voting guarantees that they, like many in their situation, will not be heard.