Submitter: Allison Wolf

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

I would like to register my strong opposition to this measure. I see it as an instrument of voter suppression.

As a newer resident of Oregon who moved here from the southeastern US, I am pleasantly impressed with Oregon's dedication to ensuring both that voters have the ability to exercise their right to vote in a convenient manner where they have time to consider the issues before them and that they have a wealth of information available to them. This allows me to make the most informed, well-considered votes I have ever been able to make in my lifetime as someone who has been a consistent voter for 35 years. With the ballot boxes and information that my vote has been counted, I have strong confidence that my voice has been heard. What you are doing here is AMAZING and I think it should be the standard.

In my time in the Southeast, I have seen manipulation of the availability of in-person voting as a tool to suppress the voices of voters. This bill makes it easier to engage in such a process. Techniques I've seen include frequent moving of polling locations without adequate warning, restricting the number of polling locations to areas many voters will find difficult to access, and insufficient supplies of operational voting machines at some locations leading to long waits. For one noteworthy election, I had to wait FIVE HOURS in line to cast my vote. I knit an entire hat while in line! This is not feasible for people who are disabled, who have children and other responsibilities, who have transportation issues, or who simply can't spend that long in line without eating.

Moreover, I am concerned that a switch to in-person voting would be accompanied by withdrawing the very comprehensive voter guides that are sent to us. These voter guides are FANTASTIC, and I really appreciate them.

Mail-in voting is fantastic and does not need changing. Please protect our right to well-informed, accessible voting.