

# Oregon Communists Oppose SB 210

From: Communist Party, USA Oregon District

To:

Chair Senator Kayse Jama,  
Vice-Chair Senator Daniel Bonham,  
Senator Jeff Golden,  
Senator James Manning Jr., and  
Senator Kim Thatcher

The Oregon District of the Communist Party, USA opposes Oregon Senate Bill 210, which represents a backwards step in the forward march of democracy in Oregon. Voter turnout has increased as a result of vote-by-mail, which has increased accessibility for workers, minorities, retirees, the disabled, students, and youth.

Requiring voter ID is a redundant obstacle in the way of participating in elections, in democracy. Voters already confirm their identities when they register to vote: a current ID or license is required to register to vote online. A robust elections security system also routinely checks signatures and boots voters from the rolls who cannot match their signatures.

Forcing people to vote in-person on election day is fundamentally anti-working-class, because many workers are scheduled to work on election day and would therefore be prevented from being able to exercise their right to vote. There is no legal requirement in Oregon for employers to allow their employees time off to vote.

It is also fundamentally ageist and ableist, as many young people, students, retirees and those with disabilities may struggle to or simply be unable to reach the polls on election day.

This measure also impacts patients who may be undergoing treatment on election day, but might have otherwise been able to vote at an earlier time if mail-in voting remained.

By requiring ID, it also discriminates against the poor, especially the homeless, who may struggle to acquire the necessary documents; trans people, who are now encountering obstacles under the Trump administration to acquire documents matching their gender; and even victims of crime, who may lack the necessary documents on election day.

Vote-by-mail has put Oregon at the top of the list for voter turnout in recent years. As a result, we have one of the most responsive and progressive legislatures in the republic. To even consider attacking and undermining democracy is itself a mistake, and to do so at a time when we are faced with the development of a fascist dictatorship under Trump constitutes a collaborationist betrayal of the worker and oppressed masses in Oregon.

We therefore urge you Senators to wholly and completely reject SB 210; to openly and clearly condemn the Bill, its contents and the insidious racist, fascist movement promoting it; and actively work to block its further progress in the Legislature.

Stand up for democracy, not fascism! Let the people vote!