

Submitter: Jo Soen
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1509
Chair Bowman, Vice Chairs Elmer and Pham and members of the House Committee on Rules,

My name is Jo Soen, and I live in Sisters, Oregon. I am writing to testify in strong support of SB 1509, which is a good governance bill that seeks to add additional security measures to our election process to ensure that presidential electors in Oregon vote faithfully and in alignment with the public's will as it relates to the President of the United States.

I am extremely concerned that the current President and his administration are seeking to directly strip away the rights of any voters they believe will not support their agendas. This is not just a problem for anyone who disagrees with the current administration, this sort of lack of accountability to voters, undermines any ideas we have about living in a free and fair society.

Without an enforcement mechanism that will ensure electors follow through on their pledge, individual electors could be bribed or threatened or manipulated by causes or organizations that intend harm. I am concerned for my neighbors and friends who are in the LGBTQIA+ community, who are neurodivergent, who are not white, whom members of the current federal administration have out-rightly stated they do intend to harm.

As our local elected officials, please stand against this attempt to undermine our safeguards. Please protect our state and ensure that SB 1509 is passed out of committee.

Thank you for your consideration.