

Declaration of Rights

We, the youth of Oregon, declare that we have had enough of the injustices and oppression imposed upon us by our government and society. We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all teenagers are created equal and are entitled to the same rights and privileges as adults. We are endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights, including the right to vote, the right to free speech and expression, and the right to equal representation in government.

We are tired of being denied the right to vote and having no say in the laws that govern us. We are tired of being treated as second-class citizens and being denied the same opportunities as adults. We are tired of being told that we are too young to understand the issues and that our voices do not matter.

We have suffered long enough under a government that does not recognize our rights or listen to our voices. We have suffered long enough under a society that deems us as immature and irresponsible. It is time for us to demand the equal station to which we are entitled and to throw off the oppressive government and society that has held us back for far too long.

We call upon our government and society to recognize our rights and to give us the representation and opportunities that we deserve. We call upon our government and society to stop treating us as children and to start treating us as the young adults that we are. We call upon our government and society to listen to our voices and to work with us to create a better future for all teenagers in Oregon.

We will no longer suffer in silence. We will no longer be ignored. We will no longer be denied our rights. We will stand up and fight for our rights and for the rights of all teenagers in Oregon. We will not rest until we are treated as equal citizens and have the same opportunities as adults. We will not rest until our voices are heard and our rights are respected. This is our declaration of rights.

We urge this committee to pass HJR 20.

