

Submitter: Debra Curiel
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR20

The opposition keeps talking about how low Oregon-ranked schools are. So I say this: So you're saying that young people should only have a say in their government if they go out of their way to volunteer and be politically active? What about those who don't have the privilege or resources to do so? And let's not forget, the youth are the ones most affected by policies that directly impact their education and future opportunities. It's time to give them a seat at the table and a voice in the decisions that affect them. Furthermore, blaming the state's education ranking for not allowing young people to participate in democracy is a weak excuse. Instead of using it as a scapegoat, we should focus on empowering our youth to be civically engaged and informed citizens from a young age. Allowing them to vote is a crucial step in that direction.