

Submitter: Mary Lemon  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HJR20

The opposition thinks 16-year-olds aren't mature enough to vote, but they are mature enough to drive a car, work a job, and pay taxes? Interesting.

It's funny how they trust 16-year-olds to make life-altering decisions such as emancipation, medical independence, and enrolling in community college, but they don't trust them to cast a ballot. Seems a bit hypocritical, don't you think?

Actually, studies have shown that 16-year-olds are just as informed and engaged in politics as adults. In fact, many of them are directly impacted by policies that they have no say in. Lowering the voting age would give them a voice in the decisions that affect their lives.

Besides, what harm could come from giving young people a chance to participate in the democratic process? Don't we want to encourage civic engagement and instill a sense of responsibility in our youth?

It's time to recognize that age does not always equal maturity or competence. It's time to give our young people the respect they deserve and allow them to exercise their right to vote.