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On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HJR20

Age does not determine someone's capability to understand complex issues. There are plenty of adults who do not fully comprehend the issues affecting Oregon, yet they are still allowed to vote. Furthermore, if we can trust 16-year-olds to drive, work, and pay taxes, why can't we trust them to vote? I think it's important to acknowledge that young people are often the ones most affected by policies made by elected officials. They deserve to have a say in the decisions that will impact their future. By denying them the right to vote, we are essentially telling them that their voices and concerns do not matter. It's important to remember that 16 and 17-year-olds are not children. They are old enough to join the military, make their own medical decisions, and by the Republican stance, even have children. If they are mature enough for these responsibilities, they are mature enough to vote.