

Submitter: Louise Nardi
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3206

Vote NO on HB 3206

The legal age to vote in Oregon is 18 yrs. We do not need to make exceptions to lower the voting age in any elections, primary or general. Schools in Oregon are ranked 47 and some believe 49 for educating students and yet Oregon is a leading state in the amount of money spent to educate each child. You should be focusing on teaching children critical thinking skills so they can make informed decisions and understand the immense responsibility of electing qualified government officials.

We do not need 16 or 17 yr. olds to vote on how adults are being taxed and how those dollars are being spent. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities for young people to be involved with to help their local community and neighborhood for those politically inclined. These volunteer positions are stepping stones that can offer growth and learning.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, the prefrontal cortex portion of the brain is responsible for skills such as planning, prioritizing, and making judgments. The prefrontal cortex is one of the last parts of the brain to mature, mid-twenties to 30 yrs. of age.