

Submitter: Syd Abad

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3012

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Syd, and I'm here to express my support for HB 3012, a bill that would allow 16- and 17-year-olds to vote in school district elections if they're registered. I believe this is a common-sense change that can make a real difference in our communities.

Why This Matters:

Decisions made in school district elections directly impact students' daily lives- everything from what they learn to how safe they feel at school. It only makes sense to give them a say in the decisions that shape their education. If they're old enough to take the classes and follow the rules they should be able to vote on who sets them.

Getting people to vote is tough, but research shows that starting young helps. If we let 16- and 17-year-olds vote now, they're more likely to keep voting as adults. It's a chance to build lifelong habits of civic engagement and to show them that their voices matter.

When young people are involved, our communities are stronger. They bring fresh perspectives and energy. And when they feel invested in local issues, they become active participants in building better schools and communities.

This isn't just about adding more voters. It's about giving the people most affected by school policies a voice in shaping them. It's about teaching responsibility, encouraging involvement, and building a stronger democracy from the ground up.

I urge you to support HB 3012.

Thank you for considering this important change.

Sincerely,

Syd