



Chair Paul Holvey and members of the House Committee On Rules

HB 2824 Oregon Youth Council, not a bad idea, but a bad bill.

If youth are so valued to enlighten the Governor, then this is a poor way to get them engaged on a fair basis. The Oregon Youth Council consist of one member from each Senate district, to be appointed by the Governor. This structure stacks the council with members from metro that don't understand what rural Oregon faces.

Further, to be truly unbiased, the Governor should not do the appointing. The requirement to attend 6 meeting per year will further eliminate rural candidates because rural kids are part of working family businesses – something the bill sponsors may not understand either.

If the Governor were serious about hearing what youth have to say, make it a school contest to send a representative to an Oregon Youth Council conference for one weekend a year. Legislators and the Governor attending to take part in sessions on civic engagement, education and youth violence, etc. This would allow more kids to attend and provide interaction with the questions coming from the panel of legislators to audience, and have everyone write their responses to turn in. It would be a true privilege and learning experience for all.

I see nothing beneficial coming from this bill.

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FAST LEGACY