

STRONGLY OPPOSE

This bill lowers the voting age for school district elections to 16 or 17 instead of 18.

A 16 year old may vote in all school district elections, including the nomination and election of school directors, and allows voter registration upto 20 days prior. High school sophomores don't have adult brain development to make good judgment no matter how smart they are.

Good judgment isn't something teens can excel in. The rational part of a teen's brain isn't developed until early 20's and isn't completely developed until age 25 or so. In fact, recent research has found that adult and teen brains work differently. Adults think with the prefrontal cortex, the brain's rational part. This is the part of the brain that responds to situations with good judgment and an awareness of long-term consequences. Teens process information with the amygdala. This is the emotional part.