



Robin Sack
Senate Committee on Rules
RE: Support SJR 25

March 11th, 2021

Chair Wagner, Vice-Chair Girod, and Members of the Senate Committee on Rules,

My name is Robin Sack, I live in Portland and I am a high school student. I am voicing my support today for SJR 25 - The Our Future, Our Vote Act - which proposes an amendment to the Oregon Constitution to lower the voting age from 18 years old to 16 years old.

I care about this planet because it cares for me and my community. Environmental justice is something we fight for everyday, because if we don't, there won't be a habitable and healthy world left for young people and future generations. I wish I could say with confidence that my legislators are doing everything they can to fight climate change and that they are aware of the absolute need to be as sustainable as possible. But currently, I can't say that. Young people need to be able to help elect our lawmakers because it will allow me, and other young people who care about our planet, to better ensure that lawmakers are using their power to create a future centered in environmental justice. I want to go through high school as a 16 and 17 year old knowing that I can elect lawmakers who know what climate change is, can list its effects, and will fight for the betterment of our communities' when it comes to climate justice. If I'm being honest, I don't just want that: I need that. Our future is dependent on our ability to influence policy as we face catastrophic anthropogenic warming. Passing The Our Future Our Vote act will ensure that 16 and 17 year olds have a say in who our lawmakers are, and how we approach climate.

And so, I am urging you to pass SJR 25. 16 and 17 year olds all across Oregon deserve the option of choosing who will be making decisions that impact their lives, and especially about decisions that we will bear the brunt of in the future. With SJR 25, we can ensure that lawmakers' decisions aren't just *about* young people, but also *for* them *and* our fight for climate justice. Please give us that option by passing SJR 25.

Sincerely,
Robin Sack