

Submitter: Patrick Stutz  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HJR20

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposal to lower the voting age in Oregon to 16 years old. I believe that this is an important step towards creating a more inclusive and democratic society, and I urge you to support this initiative.

There are several compelling reasons why we should lower the voting age to 16. First and foremost, 16 and 17-year-olds are affected by the policies and decisions made by our government, just like everyone else. They pay taxes, drive on public roads, and attend public schools. They have a stake in the future of our state and our country, and they should have a say in who represents them and how their tax dollars are spent.

Furthermore, 16 and 17-year-olds are capable of making informed decisions about politics and policy. They have access to a wealth of information through social media, news outlets, and other sources, and many are highly engaged in political issues. In fact, many young people have been at the forefront of social and political movements in recent years, demonstrating a level of civic engagement and responsibility that is truly inspiring.

Finally, lowering the voting age to 16 would help to create a culture of civic participation and engagement that could have long-lasting benefits for our democracy. By allowing young people to vote, we would be sending a clear message that their voices matter and that their opinions are valued. This could help to create a generation of voters who are more engaged and informed, and who are more likely to participate in civic life throughout their lives.

In short, I believe that lowering the voting age to 16 is a smart and forward-thinking move that would help to create a more inclusive and democratic society. I urge you to support this initiative and to work to make it a reality in Oregon.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Patrick Stutz  
Precinct Committee Person  
Springfield, Oregon