

Submitter: Xavier Rodriguez
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR20

As a staunch advocate for civil rights and the empowerment of marginalized communities, I support HJR 20, which seeks to lower the voting age to 16 in Oregon.

The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow, and it is essential that they have a voice in shaping the policies that affect their lives. By lowering the voting age, we are not only empowering the youth but also providing them with a platform to express their concerns and ideas.

The youth have proven time and again that they are capable of bringing about change, be it through social movements or innovative solutions to complex problems. Therefore, it is only just that they are given a say in the political processes that impact their futures.

As someone who fought tirelessly for the rights of Black Americans, I know all too well the importance of having a voice in the political system. The right to vote is a fundamental aspect of democracy, and by lowering the voting age, we are expanding that democracy to include more voices and perspectives.

I urge this Committee and the Oregon State Legislature to pass HJR 20 and grant the youth of Oregon the right to vote. Let us empower the next generation of leaders and work towards a more just and equitable future. As Malcolm X once said, "Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."