

Submitter: Jeff Lawrence  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HJR20

Oppose HJR 20

Dear House Committee Members on Rules,

I write in opposition to lowering the voting age to 16. Children are remarkable, but they are still children. They are not experienced or mature enough to make public policy decisions for society. They spend hours each day in our public schools being influenced by their teachers, who are in general one of the most partisan and activist groups in society. No wonder so many educators support the proposal. The peer pressure on children to confirm will be enormous. Politicizing the children will drive division and stigmatization. Children will become the targets of political ads and campaigns. Children will be unduly influenced with emotional pleas. Lowering the voting age has been considered and rejected in the past for good reason. Politicizing the children will undermine parental influence and family unity as teachers and outside influencers target them. In a highly polarized period like today the proposal is clearly driven by politics and not the well being of our children. Let's let our children be children and not turn them into the lasted voting block and propaganda targets. Voting is an adult responsibility properly reserved for adults, like military service and so many other life choices. Let's let our children remain children. The days of their adult responsibilities will be upon them soon enough.