

Submitter: Angela Nasr
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR20

It is with great enthusiasm that I express my support for House Joint Resolution 20. By doing so, Oregon can become a shining example of a vibrant democracy that recognizes the value and potential of its youth.

I believe that young people have an important role to play in shaping the future of our communities and our world. Their perspectives, energy, and creativity can help us to solve some of the most pressing challenges we face, from climate change to economic inequality. By giving 16 and 17-year-olds the right to vote, Oregon would be empowering its young people to take an active role in building the society they want to live in.

I understand that some may question the wisdom of allowing 16 and 17-year-olds to vote. They may argue that young people lack the maturity or experience to make informed decisions, or that they may be easily swayed by emotional appeals or peer pressure. However, I have faith in the intelligence and discernment of young people. Many of them have already demonstrated a deep understanding of complex issues and a commitment to social justice. By engaging them in the democratic process, we can help to cultivate these qualities and prepare them for a lifetime of responsible citizenship.

I urge the passage of HJR 20.