

Submitter: Kyle Chambless
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR20

One of the testimony peices mentioned this link:
<https://www.health.harvard.edu/mind-and-mood/the-adolescent-brain-beyond-raginghormones>

I would like to point out that the article does not actually argue against allowing 16-year-olds to vote. In fact, it acknowledges that the adolescent brain is capable of complex decision-making and reasoning. So, I'm not sure how this article supports the argument against lowering the voting age. It seems like the opposition is implying that the adolescent brain is somehow less capable of making informed decisions than the adult brain. But let's not forget that plenty of adults make poor decisions when it comes to voting. Age does not necessarily equate to wisdom or intelligence. And just because someone is 16 does not mean they cannot be informed and engaged in the political process. Finally, I would argue that allowing 16-year-olds to vote would actually be beneficial for our democracy. It would encourage young people to be more involved in the political process and give them a voice in decisions that will directly affect their future. So, instead of trying to restrict the rights of young people, let's empower them to participate in our democracy.