

Submitter: Mary Chalkiopoulos  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HB3206

I strongly oppose HB 3206 allowing 16 or 17 year-olds to vote in school district elections. Instead, based on recent studies referred to by the NIH and others, we should consider raising the voting age to 25. The NIH states, "It is well established that the brain undergoes a "rewiring" process that is not complete until approximately 25 years of age."

The average 16/17year-old does not have the ability, knowledge, and experience necessary to make sound decisions, in general. That's why it is illegal for them to drink alcohol, smoke cigarettes, and buy firearms. Instead of trying to get 16/17year-olds to vote now, how about focusing on educating them so that they can be productive, voting members of society when they are old enough to do so.