

Submitter: Jen Niemann

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3012

Representatives Neron, Chaichi, Chotzen, Gamba, Grayber, Munoz, Nguyen H, Sosa, Tran, Senator Campos, Pham, Sollman et al

I am writing to you to oppose HB 3012. This bill is shortsighted and a baldly partisan attempt to pack the voter rolls in our state. As a citizen of Oregon, I am disheartened that we have devolved further over the past two decades into an anti-Constitutional hot mess. Never in my lifetime did I think that I would see our constitutional rights stripped away from us by a group of people who should appreciate all the things that it stands for. The bills under consideration in this cycle are by far the most Orwellian and contrary to our constitutional republic that I have seen yet. This bill is no exception. While one might think that expanding the franchise to younger voters would be a positive thing, neuroscience and logic tell us otherwise. Why are we proposing to expand the single most important privilege afforded to American citizens to people who lack a basic understanding of how government works? Until recently, civics was not even required to graduate from Oregon public schools. Now you are proposing to expand the power of a vote to people who lack even a rudimentary understanding of how government works. This is a disaster in the making, and frankly, I am not shocked to see this proposed by this party, but I am deeply disappointed.