

2/28/2025

My name is Anna Munson, I am a citizen living in Salem, OR. I am writing in opposition to HB3012. I am really thankful for this bill; this helps connect the dots as to why our state legislature has even allowed 16 and 17 yr. olds to register to vote through the DMV. We all knew it was to allow them to vote in all elections and this is the first action.

In the Constitution the requirements for voting in elections are, a) **to be a citizen in any State** and b) **to be at least 18 years old**. This age requirement is there for a reason, this is the age in which a person is responsible for their own actions.

Not only does this bill make a mockery of our elections by allowing children who cannot and most often do not understand or care about the complexities of how the school that they may attend functions; but they do not understand or have experience as to how our world functions. If a youth gets into trouble with the law they are not treated as an adult, with the full brunt of the consequences of their actions. They are treated by a juvenile court system which considers their age.

We have known that at age 16, the human brain is not fully formed and functional. It is the responsibility of the parent or adults in general to look out for the child's interest for the betterment of that child. Most adults today understand that fact. Though there may be a few who mature more quickly due to life circumstances, we always consider this to be the child's disadvantage, not to their advantage.

On a different note, the effect of this on the election system in this state would be an additional burden that clerk at the DMV and county clerk offices. They are already responsible for things that are not within the scope of their job. When clerks are asked to accommodate these changes, they do so willingly, it is their job. Recently at DMV thousands of mistakes were found.

This bill adds costs to the election apparatus, and it doesn't make rational sense. Voting is important, a right and privilege for every qualified citizen. We cannot downgrade it by adding citizens that do not meet **the very basic criteria already established**.

Do you really want your child who:

- Is playing high school sports
- Is living at home rent free
- Dependent on you, parents or guardians for their allowance
- Dependent on you, parents or guardians for all their living needs
- whose brains are not fully formed or functional
- And so on and so on.

deciding who will run a multi-million-dollar school district responsible for thousands of employee jobs and so much more? I THINK NOT!

I Strongly Oppose HB 3012 and encourage you to do the same.

Respectfully,

Anna Munson