

Submitter: Melinda DeShane
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3012

I oppose HB3012. If you want to teach them how to vote then put civics courses back in the classrooms. Due to new federal laws regarding current curriculum there should be plenty of classroom hours available for educational material.

What about the additional costs? This should be voted on by those of us that will foot the bill.

Why can they vote at 16 but not buy alcohol, guns, tobacco, Marijuana, or join the military? Most 16 and 17 year old children are not mature enough to safely use age restricted items which is why they are restricted. Why does maturity not apply to voting? It does matter because they are easy to persuade. 1 popular student could say vote for candidate #1 and the entire body could likely vote that way. This could literally sway an election. Elections have consequences. These students could vote for their own demise and be completely unaware of it.

There will be ample time and opportunity for them to vote in all elections in just 1 or 2 short years.

If it isn't broke do not fix it. Leave the voting age at 18 for all elections that impact our communities.