

Submitter: Eliana Arnold
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3012

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Measure, Appointment or Topic: Support HB 3012

Chair Bowman, Vice Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Pham and members of the House Committee on Rules,

My name is Eliana Arnold, and I live in Salem. I am writing to testify in strong support of the Student Voice and Democracy Act, HB 3012, which will allow registered 16- and 17-year-olds to vote in local school board elections, giving students a critical voice in their education thereby strengthening our democracy.

This bill is important as 16- and 17-year-olds gain a lot of independence in their age and gain responsibilities such as working jobs and being in charge of their own transportation like driving and using public transportation. Both examples are just some of the many out there but can heavily impact youth. As teens grow up, they gain more rights and responsibilities. Voting in local school board elections should be one of those as it introduces youth to the responsibilities of voting and prepares them for future civic duties.

This is why I strongly support the Student Voice and Democracy Act, HB 3012, which will allow registered 16- and 17-year-olds to vote in local school board elections.

Thank you,
Eliana Arnold