

Submitter:

D Torres

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1574

I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB 1574.

The primary ballot is NOT just for choosing a primary candidate in the primary parties for the general election as this body should know. There are races and measures that appear on this ballot that are FINAL races and passage of measures. The same reason a 17 year old cannot vote in the general election is the reason they should not in a primary.

Voting is typically reserved for individuals who have reached the age of maturity (typically 18). Adjusting eligibility for the primaries is inconsistent with that standard. Some 17 year olds may not yet have the life experience or civic understanding necessary for participation in such candidate races or measures.

This legislative body continues to disgust the taxpayers of this state with such antics in an apparent desperation to pass legislation that taxpayers do not want, such as SB 1599 that the body just moved forward even though 250,000 voters said they wanted to vote on it in the general election.

It is quite apparent that this legislative body is depending on enticing our children to help them pass legislation most Oregonians don't want. There is absolutely NO REASON to expect a child to vote with strong knowledge of any such bill or measure at the age of 17. Their brains aren't fully developed yet, ask any medical professional. The exceptional few does not give the proof to make this justified change.

NO to SB 1574.