

## **Please Support SCR17-001 Reduce Age Qualification for General Assembly**

- 13 states currently allow 18 year olds to run in at least one chamber, and an additional 26 states allow 21 year-olds. 3 additional states do not have an age requirement, and only 3 states, including Colorado, require someone to be 25. We currently have the highest age requirement for the lower house, and only a few states have a higher age requirement for their state senate.
- Right now we tell a segment of the population that they have all the responsibilities of a citizen of this state, but not the right to represent themselves.
- We tell people under 25 that they must pay taxes, but can't write the legislation that determines how those taxes will be spent?
- We trust them to serve in the military, defend this country, lead soldiers in combat, and take responsibility for the lives of the servicemen with them, but that they can't take responsibility to represent veteran's issues in the legislature?
- They can pay tuition and taxes for higher education, but can't participate in the determination of state spending and policy for that education?

SCR17-001 allows the voters of Colorado the opportunity to decide if they believe the age qualification is too high, and to determine who best to represent them in the General Assembly. It is a bipartisan resolution, supported by Colorado Young Democrats and the Colorado Federation of Young Republicans.

| State         | Upper House | Lower House |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Alabama       | 25          | 21          |
| Alaska        | 25          | 21          |
| Arizona       | 25          | 25          |
| Arkansas      | 25          | 21          |
| California    | 30          | 18          |
| Colorado      | 25          | 25          |
| Connecticut   | None        | None        |
| Delaware      | 27          | 24          |
| Florida       | 21          | 21          |
| Georgia       | 25          | 21          |
| Hawaii        | 25          | 18          |
| Idaho         | 18          | 18          |
| Illinois      | 21          | 21          |
| Indiana       | 25          | 21          |
| Iowa          | 25          | 21          |
| Kansas        | 18          | 18          |
| Kentucky      | 30          | 24          |
| Louisiana     | 30          | 18          |
| Maine         | 25          | 21          |
| Maryland      | 25          | 21          |
| Massachusetts | 18          | None        |
| Michigan      | 21          | 21          |
| Minnesota     | 21          | 21          |
| Mississippi   | 25          | 21          |
| Missouri      | 30          | 24          |
| Montana       | None        | None        |
| Nebraska      | 21          | N.A.        |
| Nevada        | 21          | 21          |
| New Hampshire | 30          | 18          |
| New Jersey    | 30          | 21          |
| New Mexico    | 25          | 21          |

|                |      |      |
|----------------|------|------|
| New York       | 18   | 18   |
| North Carolina | 21   | 21   |
| North Dakota   | 18   | 18   |
| Ohio           | 18   | 18   |
| Oklahoma       | 25   | 21   |
| Oregon         | 21   | 21   |
| Pennsylvania   | 25   | 21   |
| Rhode Island   | 18   | 18   |
| South Carolina | 25   | 21   |
| South Dakota   | 21   | 21   |
| Tennessee      | 30   | 21   |
| Texas          | 26   | 21   |
| Utah           | 25   | 25   |
| Vermont        | None | None |
| Virginia       | 21   | 21   |
| Washington     | 18   | 18   |
| West Virginia  | 18   | 18   |
| Wisconsin      | 18   | 18   |
| Wyoming        | 25   | 21   |