

SUPPORT STUDENT VOICE

BETTER TURNOUT FOR ALL ELECTIONS

- Research suggests that casting a ballot at 16 or 17 could develop a lifelong habit.
- Additionally, youth who are civically engaged are likely to remain engaged throughout adulthood, meaning that lowering the voting age to 16 may increase voting rates of youth 18+ over time. - *Psychology Today*
- A FairVote analysis of the 2013 election in Takoma Park showed that about 17 percent of 16- and 17-year-old eligible voters cast a ballot in the local election. That's about double the 8.5 percent of eligible 18-year-olds.
- Trickle up effect: research shows parents who have children voting are more likely to vote themselves.

STUDENTS DESERVE A SAY IN THE EDUCATION THEY RECEIVE

- Students are experts in their own educations and experiences.
- Students are told every day to take school seriously, and this will provide a buy-in to do so.
- The largest group that turns out to vote and determines the day-to-day functions of our schools have not been in classrooms for decades and/or have not had children in classrooms for decades.
- Several countries around the world, including Austria, Brazil, Malta, and Scotland, have lowered the voting age to 16.



SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS AND UPWARD MOBILITY






- Recent research suggests that young adults (age 18-27) who vote have better health, higher education, and higher personal income four years later relative those who did not vote (Ballard et al., 2018).- *Psychology Today*

WHY JUST SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS?

- "Training wheels for democracy" - this will be good practice in researching candidates and election processes for future elections.
- These are the elections that are most relevant and most impact their daily life.



CONTACT US: INFO@STUDENTVOICESTUDENTVOTE.ORG
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 STUDENT VOICE, STUDENT VOTE

Student ✓voice, Student ✓vote

Dearest legislator,

Student Voice, Student Vote (SV2) is a growing coalition of organizations and individuals seeking to change Colorado state law to allow 16- and 17-year olds the right to vote in school board elections. Today we came to the capitol to share our stories and provide our perspective from the student voice.

We hope to have your support in the passage of this bill. You have an opportunity to pass national history making legislation; Colorado could be the first state to pass this type of legislation. There are many reasons we believe it is time to empower student's to vote and they are listed on the backside of this letter.

Please vote YES on the Student Voice, Student Vote Act when the time comes. We look forward to future conversations and hope to speak soon. We would love to schedule a meeting with you to discuss our future! Please contact us at info@studentvoicestudentvote.org.

With gratitude and respect,

The student voices of SV2