

Dear Representative Gannon,

On Wednesday, March 13th, I sat in your Committee for about an hour so I could hear testimony on a bill that would lower the voting age to 16 in Municipal elections. As a 17 year old, I adore this idea. I've talked to so many kids my age and younger who really want to vote and have a lot to say. For a long time, I've felt that adults don't listen to opinions of kids, and I'm glad that the Vermont Legislature finally is. This bill will not effect me, because the effective date is July 1st, which is 3 days after my 18th birthday. Even so, I feel like it is important for the next generation of teens after me to have their voices properly heard. The speech you gave on Wednesday about how much teenagers care about social issues made me very happy. I wanted to come and testify at your Committee about the bill, but I can't find a time to miss school again this week. As an alternative, I would appreciate if you would allow me to address my support in a separate email to be introduced to your Committee. Of course, you are welcome to show this email as well, but I was just wondering if that would be possible. Representative Walz also showed me a message you sent to the entire House about the bill, and I wanted to express my gratitude about that as well. It seems to me that you will be a strong ally in getting this bill passed, and that is good to know. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Alexis Schafer