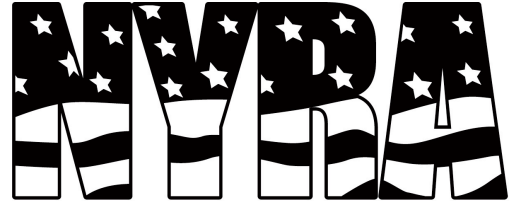


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Press Release

NYRA to testify on Voting Age bill to Texas House Committee

Austin, TX, April 23, 2003: National Youth Rights Association representative Justin Webb will testify today at 2 p.m. in room E2.012 to the Texas House Committee on Elections on House Bill 482 and House Joint Resolution 29 to lower the voting age for state elections to 16.

These efforts are part of the newest growing movement across the United States. In addition to Texas, Maine has introduced a ballot to lower the statewide voting age. Students in Cambridge, Mass. succeeded in lower the voting age to seventeen for local elections. A ballot petition is circulating in Florida to lower the voting age to 16. The NYRA-Washington, D.C. chapter is working with local municipal governments in Maryland as well.

Webb is a 25 year-old government major at the University of Texas, graduating in July. Through an internship with Texas Public Interest Research Group, Webb came across the bill and decided to join the effort with Representative Ron Wilson, author of HB 482 and HJR 29.

The National Youth Rights Association, founded in 1998, is the largest youth rights organization. Based in Washington, D.C., NYRA is growing rapidly. NYRA currently has twelve chapters with many more in the works. NYRA speaks at many conferences on youth rights and frequently appears on CNN and other major radio and television news networks. More information is available on NYRA at: www.youthrights.org

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