

Group Hears Youth Plead For Ballot

AUSTIN, Texas (UPI)—Young witnesses streamed before the House Constitutional Amendments Committee Tuesday night to plug a proposal to lower the voting age to 18.

Rep. V. E. (Red) Berry of San Antonio brought the measure which he said "we should turn over to the old folks to decide whether the young ones should vote."

Young witnesses said if people are old enough to get married and serve in the armed forces, they are old enough to vote. Some said lowering the voting age would re-voters would take more active parts in campaigns.

"Married people under 21 have have full citizenship although they have accepted all citizenship responsibilities," University of Texas law student Tommy Mansker said.

Keith Sterzing, a graduate government major at the university, said it is unfair to restrict voting. "Younger people are better informed today," he said.

Berry named several states that have lower age requirements, including "that great horse racing state, Kentucky." Berry has his second parimutuel betting proposal before the legislature this year.

The voting proposal was referred to a subcommittee for further study.