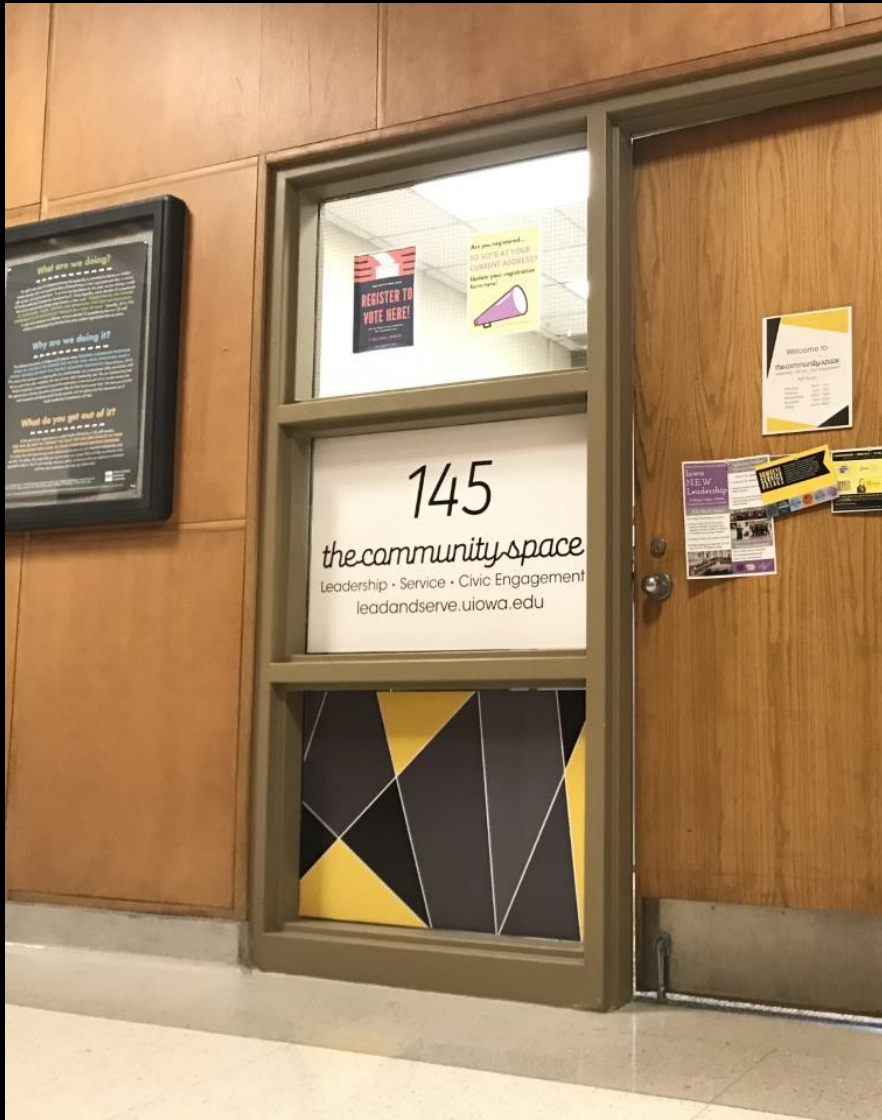


HAWK **THE**
VOTE

The 26th Amendment



Who are we?

- Hawk the Vote is a non-partisan student initiative on campus working to increase voter registration, education, and turn-out.
- We are a team of 4 undergraduate students that are passionate about voter engagement
- Part of the Office of Leadership, Service and Civic Engagement
- We normally hold office hours in IMU 145 (not this year due to COVID)



Election Resources

- Vote.uiowa.edu
 - Info on voter registration, absentee ballots, in-person voting
 - Candidate guides for local, state, and federal elections
 - Access to a voter hotline for quick voting questions
- Johnson County Auditor's Office
 - Has lots of information about special elections
 - Office that handles voter registration and absentee ballot request forms
 - Call this office for Voter ID Pin (for ABRF)



Ways to Vote

- **Early**

- In Iowa, early voting can run for up to a month before Election Day (Oct. 5th). No matter where you live, anyone can vote early at locations found on the auditor's website.

- **Absentee**

- If you prefer to vote by mail, you can request an absentee ballot and mail it in before Election Day. As long as you request before the deadline (Oct. 18th) and drop it in the mailbox before Election Day, you're good to go.

- **Election Day**

- If you love the thrill of voting on Election Day (Nov. 2nd), you will need to go to your specified location that can be found online. All polling locations have been modified for health reasons

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Vote at 18 Becomes U.S. Law

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The voting age in all elections was lowered to 18 years Wednesday night when Ohio ratified the 26th amendment to the U. S. Constitution, fulfilling the requirement that 38 states do so to make it law. The Ohio House, with 99 members, ratified the amendment 81-9, one day after

- Originally, the minimum voting age was left up to each state to decide, though most states settled on 21
- By 1830 the minimum voting age was 21 nationally
- Lowering the voting age came into the public consciousness during WWII

The History of the Youth Vote

Passage of the Selective Service Act

- The Selective Service Act lowered the draft age for 21 to 20 in the early 1940's
- In 1942, the draft age was lowered again from 20 to 18
- Having the voting age be higher than the draft age led to some questioning the voting age

“Old enough to fight, old enough to vote”



- This was a popular slogan in the movement for the voting age to be lowered
- In 1954, President Eisenhower included a remark to this effect, in his State of the Union
- As the Vietnam War ramped up and this sentiment grew stonger

The View of Young Adults

- At this time young adults were not largely not viewed as independent people, but instead a population to be protected
- One reason for this perception was child and young adult advocacy like anti-child labor law focused primarily talked about children and young adults as vulnerable
- The Vietnam War and the draft, began changing this perception



Vietnam War and Political Activism



- The Vietnam war created a moment where young people, specifically college students were beginning to organize and become increasingly politically active
- Lowering the voting age to 18 became an issue that many different political groups began organizing around



Demonstration led by Project 18





- Project 18 was a group that was created to push for the 26th amendment
- The NAACP, Young Democrats, and Young Republicans all helped organize in this effort.

Collation Building

Kent State

- May 1964
- 4 student protesters were killed by the national guard during a protest against the Vietnam War
- This tragedy made the push to lower the voting age more urgent

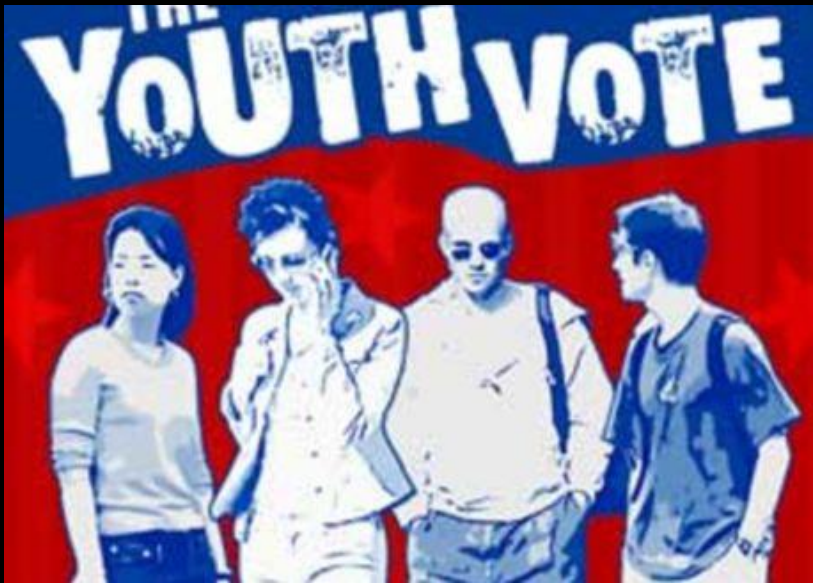


Legislation and Ratification



- The United States Senate was the first government body to unanimously vote for lowering the voting age, followed by the House of Representative
- Then the states quickly ratified the 26th amendment with it officially going into effect in the summer of 1971.

Immediate Impact



- The question of where college students should vote arose immediately upon ratification
- The SCOTUS ruled that college students can vote from either their hometown or college town
- The ratification of the 26th Amendment had an initial boost on voter participation among young people, but that was not long lived

50 years of the 26th Amendment



Questions?

Follow us [@votehawk](#) on Twitter and Instagram

Email us dsl-hawkthevote@uiowa.edu

Visit our website vote.uiowa.edu

