

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

**YOU ONLY HAVE TO BE 18+ TO VOTE, THERE ARE
MANY OTHER WAYS TO BE POLITICALLY ACTIVE.**



From registering to vote if you are at least 16 years old, to registering others to vote, to fighting for legislation focused on protecting our environment, there are many ways you can get into political activism.

Political Activism 101

Youth have the power to make change, we have seen this in the past when youth lead social change around the world. The topic of youth in politics is often brushed over because we aren't of voting age yet, but legislation passed by governments shape how we live. This is intended to share opportunities on how youth can make their voice heard through government.

Meet Your Representative

Visit <https://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder> to find your legislative & congressional district. From there, you can find your representatives. Send them an email or a phone call, tell them about yourself & why ocean conservation is important to you. This may sound scary at first but remember, these are people from your area just like you. They love to hear from who they represent, especially youth.

Research A Bill

Representatives vote on bills that, if approved by a majority & signed by the governor, become law. Learn more about past bills, or current bills awaiting a vote. You can view current events in the capitol here: <http://leg.wa.gov/legislature/Pages/Calendar.aspx>.

Register To Vote

If you are at least 18 years old, you can register to vote. Registering to vote takes less than 5 minutes & the impacts of voting can last generations. Take the 5 minutes right now, go to vote.gov.

Register Others To Vote

At School:

Talk with your school about organizing a voter registration drive. You may have more luck if you find a group of students interested in helping you, offering to host a non-partisan drive during lunch or before school might have better luck.

Friends:

Check-in with friends either through social media, phone call, text, letter writing, or socially-distant meet ups. Take this time to share why voting is important to you & ask if they are registered or interested in helping you register others.

Other Organizations:

There are many environmental organizations that host phone banking events where you call potential voters in your area & make sure they have a plan for the upcoming election. The Sunrise Movement may be a good place to start.

National Voter Registration Day is September 22nd. Hosting a voter drive anytime is amazing, but if you want more publicity it might be worth planning one for National Voter Registration Day.

Research & Support Local Candidates

Find candidates that support ocean conservation & the issues that matter to you. Volunteer for their campaigns, this often includes phone banking & canvassing neighborhoods with other volunteers to share why people should vote for that candidate.