

Dear the right honorable Chair-woman, and members of the committee:

I would like to state for the record that my name is Aaron B. Coleman, the first and so far only, Kansan teenager to enter the gubernatorial election as an Independent. I will be opposing this legislation, as I believe it is a step in the wrong direction, and will only increase disenfranchisement of the youth and dissatisfaction with the political process.

If you're old enough to be shot in school you're old enough to know what's going on with the adults in charge. Young people have the right to defend and protect themselves, via the political process, when adults have consistently refused to do so.

Attacking young people for stating their opinions and actively participating in democracy by slinging dirt at their ability to speak out for themselves and questioning their intelligence is shitting on everything the US is built upon. A sure-fire sign of total moral bankruptcy if I've ever seen one.

What greater political activism is there, than running for office? My run for the highest office in the state of Kansas, has so far, given me thousands of dollars in free advertising. As was Donald Trump's winning motto "All news coverage, is good news coverage" -- How many other 17 year olds do you know, that have had the chance to have their name printed on the front page of the news nationwide, and outline their hopes and beliefs for the future of their home state?

Here's three(3) articles, for an example: "**A Teeanger could run Kansas better than Sam Brownback**" - Rolling Stones by Hannah Pasternak. "**Teens these days: They're running for political office**" - National Public Radio by Tom Gjelten. "**'I'm not a career politician': 6 teenagers run for Kansas governor**" - New York Times by Jose A. Del Real.

What scares you about the voters of Kansas? Why are you fearful they'll elect someone that's not qualified unless we put legal restrictions on it? -- I'm not afraid of the voters. The voters will decide who is qualified to serve, and I don't have a problem with that. And if they don't want someone who isn't a "qualified elector", that's real easy to do. You check the other guy.

Here's some famous quotes that may shed some light on this issue at hand:

"when injustice becomes law, resistance is duty" - Thomas Jefferson, 3rd president of the United States of America.

"If all that Americans want is security, they can go to prison. They'll have enough to eat, a bed and a roof over their heads. But if an American wants to preserve his dignity and his equality as a human being, he must not bow his neck to any government." - Dwight D. Ewinsower, 34th president of the United States of America.

"Those who make peaceful revolution impossible, will make violent revolution inevitable." - John F. Kennedy, 35th president of the United States of America.

Thank you for your time

- Aaron B. Coleman. Student at JCCC. Resides at: Overland Park, Kansas, 66204.