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18 year-old voting

George Moscone

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Reply to Editorial "Full Class Citizens" 1-11-71
By Senator George R. Moscone

I congratulate KGO-TV for its editorial forthrightness in endorsing full voting privileges for 18-year-olds--including state and local elections.

The issue of other adult responsibilities, however, including the right to purchase alcoholic beverages, enter into contracts, etc., is an entirely different consideration.

Voting and buying liquor are not synonymous with citizenship.

Changing the adult responsibility laws is far more controversial than complying with the Supreme Court on 18-year-old voting.

To mix the two issues may well endanger the constitutional amendment which I have introduced which will enable adult Californians to vote on the 18-year-old electoral question.

The best interest of the State and the voters will be served if we take the issues one at a time.

The 18-year-old vote is by far the more important question.

With that settled we can move on to seriously questioning age requirements in other areas of our society.

Thank you.