

Dear Sir or Madam,

We live in a country that has perhaps the most underqualified leader in its history. And while many of us are baffled by the events that have led to this situation, few can doubt that this man achieved his position legally. In our system of government, we don't have stringent requirements for holding public office, even the highest office in the land.

In fact, the standards for people who elect our representatives are often higher than for those holding these positions. There is no intelligence requirement for holding public office. An elected official may only have a limited education and have difficulty grasping concepts that would be useful in governing, say, a country. But voters are not granted that privilege.

Some of our citizens may have difficulty understanding the essence of a ballot question. They may be enthusiastic about being part of democracy, but through no fault of their own, they may be uninformed about certain aspects of the process.

Imagine Michael Faraday, who had no public education, being denied access to the voting booth. He invented the bunsen burner, shouldn't he be able to pull a lever? Shouldn't Ben Franklin, who dropped out of school at age ten, be able to pick his leader?

And how about those with learning disabilities? People like Whoopi Goldberg, Steven Spielberg, Cher and Baltimore County's own Michael Phelps? They deserve a little help, just a little. You can do just that.

We are making great strides in making polling places accessible to all. As a wheelchair user, I can attest to that. But let's not forget those disabilities we may ignore simply because we can't see them. Voting should be an opportunity, not a barrier. I urge you to pass this legislation. Thank you.

Crosby King, Organizer
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