

KENNEDY TO ARGUE YOUTH-VOTING CASE

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 8 — Senator Edward M. Kennedy, a former Assistant District Attorney in Boston who has not argued a case in nine years, will argue for the constitutionality of the new 18-year-old vote law in the Federal District Court here Thursday.

Tuesday Chief Judge David L. Bazelon of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia issued an order granting a group of civil rights, youth and labor organizations permission to argue as friends of the court in the first court test of the new statute.

Senator Kennedy will argue their case. He initiated the proposal in Congress that the voting age could be lowered to 18 by statute. This resulted in a provision in the voting acts amendments of 1970 that bars states from denying the vote, on the basis of age, to persons who are 18 or older.

The statute, which became law on June 22, was challenged the next day in court here by five members of the Conservative party in New York. They also disputed the constitutionality of companion provisions of the law that outlaw literacy tests and long residency requirements for voting.

Similar challenges have been taken directly to the Supreme Court by Oregon, Texas and the United States.