



Environmental Education and the 114th Congress

Federal Climate Change Education Legislation

House Bill H.R. 1961, Senate Bill S. 3074

Our Request

- **Cosponsor H.R. 1961 in the House of Representatives, S. 3074 in the Senate**

www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1961, www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/3074

To Cosponsor the Climate Change Education Legislation or for More Information

Office of Sen. Ed Markey (MA), Alec Bogdanoff, (202) 224-2742, alec_bogdanoff@markey.senate.gov

Office of Rep. Mike Honda (CA-17), Laurie Chong, (202) 225-2631, laurie.chong@mail.house.gov

The Case for Climate Education and the Federal Climate Change Education Legislation

Effective climate change mitigation and adaptation will require the informed decisions and actions of individuals and communities. Congressional Climate Change Education legislation will establish a Climate Change Education Program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to deepen the public's understanding of climate change, its impacts, and potential solutions. The program will promote education about national and local strategies for increasing resilience to the effects of climate change, such as rising sea levels and extreme weather events. NOAA funds would support the use of science and technology in providing formal and informal learning opportunities to people of all ages and demographics. The program will emphasize actionable information that promotes implementation of new technologies, programs, and incentives related to energy conservation, renewable energy options, and greenhouse gas reduction. Eligible activities include teacher professional development, development of curricula for climate change education, improving quality and access to higher education for green collar jobs, and a range of programming in public schools.

The North American Association for Environmental Education endorses these bills as stand-alone legislation, or as components of larger comprehensive climate measures.

Legislative History

First introduced by Rep. Mike Honda (CA-17) in the 110th Congress as the Global Warming Education Act. Similar legislation was sponsored again by Rep. Honda in the 111th, 113th, and this current Congress, but never voted on. A Senate climate education bill was first introduced in 110th Congress by Sen. Barack Obama (IL). In December 2015, Senate Amendment 2176, similar to S. 3074, was introduced by Sen. Ed Markey (MA) as an amendment to the Every Student Succeeds Act, and was voted on; it was defeated 44-53.

www.congress.gov/amendment/114th-congress/senate-amendment/2176.

Sen. Markey is the sponsor of S. 3074 in this, the 114th Congress. The two current bills have identical wording.

For Additional Information

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November 2016