

My Global Warming Education Amendment

Written by Mike Honda
Wednesday, 02 May 2007 19:00

On Wednesday, I offered an amendment to the [National Science Foundation Authorization Act](#) to enhance environmental literacy by promoting understanding of global warming, climate science, and greenhouse gas reduction strategies. I am proud to report that an effort to weaken my amendment by calling into question the science of global warming was defeated by a vote of 166-250, and that my amendment passed by a vote of 252-165. You can watch as I encouraged my colleagues to [support global warming education](#)

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There is a growing consensus that mitigation strategies to stop or reverse climate change will be much more effective if they are implemented quickly. Understanding is the key. The informed decisions of individuals will have a significant impact on the reduction of greenhouse gases.

To understand global warming, its causes, potential consequences, and possible solutions, one must understand the complex relationships between natural systems and human activities.

Unfortunately, climate science is not frequently emphasized in K-12 core science curricula in schools. If it is included at all, it will usually be a brief overview in an earth science course, or included as part of an elective science course after students have completed physical science, biology, and chemistry. Consequently, climate science is often poorly understood by students and adults alike.

There are things that people can do, right now, to reverse global warming, but they need to be armed with the knowledge that will help them in this fight. By expanding knowledge, we can maximize the impact of carbon-reducing measures.

By providing clear information about global warming, in a variety of forms, we will remove the fear and the sense of helplessness, and encourage individuals and communities to take action. Improved climate science education will enhance the implementation of measures that promote energy efficiency, conservation, and renewable energy that will greatly reduce human impact on

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the environment.

More info [here](#) .